THE TIMES

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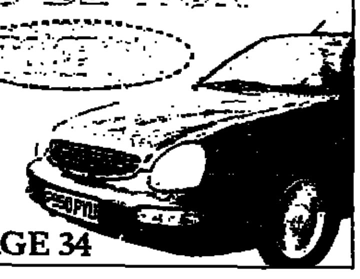

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TODAY 10P

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Our weekly guide to the hi-tech world, on the festival season

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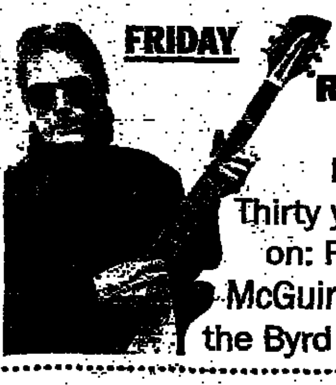

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PLUS: WEEKEND, CAR 97, WEEKEND MONEY AND FULL TV GUIDE IN THE DIRECTORY

Disaster for Chirac as the Left romps home

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE Left won a convincing victory in the French parliamentary elections last night, overturning the massive majority enjoyed by the Centre-Right and ushering in an unpredictable era of power-sharing between a Socialist-led government and the conservative President Chirac. The result also raised fresh doubts about a single European currency.

Moments after voting ended, the polling organisation CSA predicted that the combined Left, made up of Socialists, Communists and other left-wing parties, would win about 310 seats in the 577-seat parliament, with 264 for the Centre-Right coalition.

The extreme-Right National Front was tipped to gain two seats, its first parliamentary representation since 1988, while the Greens were expected to win their first seat ever.

Two other polling groups predicted that the Socialists would win a majority in the French National Assembly without Communist support, making it almost certain that Lionel Jospin will become the next Prime Minister. Alain Juppé, the unpopular Prime Minister who agreed to step down last week in an attempt to stave off defeat, conceded less than an hour after the polls closed.

He said: "We did not manage to convince the French people that we were going in the right direction. The people have spoken. Their decision is sovereign. We all respect it. I wish good luck to those who will now govern France and I wish good luck to France."

M Chirac called the snap election nearly a year early in an attempt to secure a renewed parliamentary mandate in the run-up to European economic and monetary union. But the decision turned out to be the most costly and ill-advised gamble of his career. He now faces up to five years of power-sharing with a hostile Government after the voters' emphatic rejection of his austerity policies, higher taxes and record unemployment.

M Jospin has sought to play down fears that a Left-Right "cohabitation" would critically weaken the country and has insisted that France would still join a single European currency. But the result leaves the future of EMU hanging in the balance, since his party has urged a flexible interpretation of the Maastricht Treaty requirements and ruled out further cost-cutting to meet them. The Communists campaigned vigorously against the single currency.

Although France experienced two periods of power-sharing under President Mitterrand, the Socialist victory may provoke a prolonged period of political instability. M Chirac, whose presidential term has five more years to run, cannot call another election for at least a year, but if he appears sufficiently weakened the Left may try to force an early presidential election.

The Centre-Right had pinned its hopes on a high turnout, after 31 per cent of voters shunned the ballot box in the first round last Sunday, but almost as many people abstained again yesterday. "This is a clear failure, we have to recognise that," Bernard Pons, outgoing Transport Minister and a close confidant of M Chirac, said.

M Juppé was ousted after the first round and the Eurosceptic Speaker Philipe Séguin brought in as the coalition figure-head. He appealed to France not to return to the "ghosts of the past". But his public reservations on EMU and his emphasis on social policies could not turn the tide.

Under the French constitution, the division of powers in a "cohabitation" is sufficiently vague to presage a prolonged struggle between M Chirac and M Jospin, who competed for the presidency in 1995, over the control of government policy. Presidents have traditionally claimed the right to oversee foreign policy, but whether the single currency project would fall into that category is a matter for discussion — and almost certainly dispute.

A mood of the deepest pessimism swept the Gaullist headquarters in Paris even before polls closed last night, as the President summoned his leading collaborators to watch the results at the *Elysée Palace*.

The outcome was a bitter personal defeat for M Chirac, who arrived in power as one of the strongest presidents of the Fifth Republic and who last night became one of the weakest.

The National Front leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen, said that the President should resign. "This is not a defeat, it is a disaster. Jacques Chirac has been beaten twice, in votes on the first round and in seats on the second. He played double or quits and lost. He should draw the consequences and hand his mandate back to the people."

Losing hand, page 10
Peter Riddell, page 20
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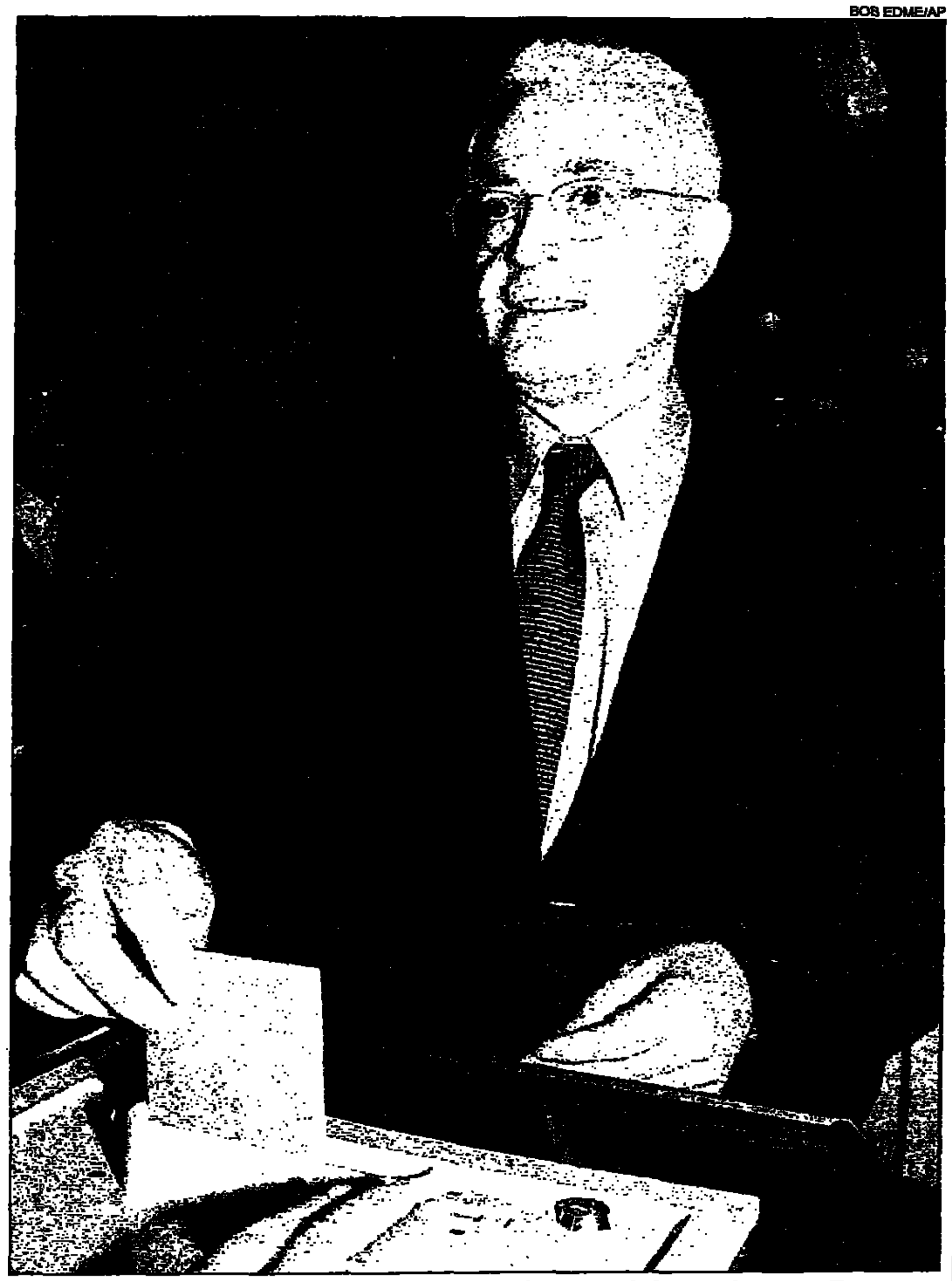
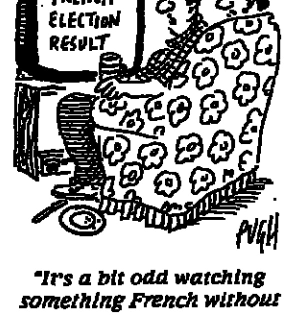


Socialist leader Lionel Jospin voting yesterday in Cintegabelle, southwestern France



"It's a bit odd watching something French without Gerard Depardieu"

Loyalist pub mob beats RUC officer to death

BY NICHOLAS WATT
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

AN OFF-DUTY police constable was beaten to death by a loyalist mob outside a public house in Ballymoney, Co Antrim, early yesterday.

As the Royal Ulster Constabulary came to terms with the first murder of a policeman by loyalists in years, the IRA ended a month-long unofficial ceasefire by abandoning a van packed with 1,000lb of explosives in the Poleglass area of West Belfast. Army bomb disposal experts carried out a controlled explosion.

The weekend incidents left Tony Blair facing an enormous challenge in his efforts to salvage the Northern Ireland peace process.

Police arrested a number of men in connection with the murder of Constable Greg Taylor, 41, who was married with three children.

The constable was beaten to death outside Kelly's Bar in Ballymoney after a row about the RUC's decision to block a Protestant parade in the nearby village of Dunloy two weeks ago.

At least seven men jumped on him and stamped on his head as fellow loyalists held back friends, including another off-duty police officer. When someone asked for help a mob shouted: "He doesn't need a doctor."

Security sources said last night that members of a loyalist flute band, who were thrown out of the pub after abusing Constable Taylor and his friends over the banned Dunloy parade, lay in wait for him outside the pub. As he left the pub they struck.

The murder of Constable Taylor and the attempted IRA bombing will cast a shadow over the talks and will fuel fears that Northern Ireland is on the verge of a repeat of the widespread disturbances during last sum-

Continued on page 2, col 4

Blair calls on single mothers

BY ANDREW PIERCE
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR will go to a rundown south London council estate today to challenge Britain's 800,000 jobless single mothers and the young unemployed to enrol at job centres and defeat welfare dependency.

Mr Blair, who has launched a wide-ranging social security spending review, will make clear that it will be unacceptable for unemployed people to continue to draw benefit if they reject placements on work, training or education schemes. He will urge single parents without jobs to go to government employment office centres to enrol for training courses. "We want to help them to help themselves," he will say.

While there will be no reference to compulsion in the speech, his first outside Westminster since he became Prime Minister,

Continued on page 2, col 5

Leading article, page 21

Child stranded after coup flies to Britain

BY LIN JENKINS

A TWO-YEAR-OLD girl is expected to be be reunited with her British parents today after being abandoned amid the chaos of the evacuation in Sierra Leone.

Remate Conteh is thought to be among 200 people flying home this morning on an aircraft chartered by the Foreign Office to rescue British nationals. The toddler was found wandering among hundreds of refugees waiting to be repatriated last Friday after the military coup. She had her British passport strung around her neck and £80 in cash in her pocket with the business card of a person in Britain.

Roger Crooks, the American hotel manager who found her assembled with others in the Mammy Yoko hotel in Freetown, made arrangements for her to join the last group to be airlifted to safety. She was accompanied by Vanessa Schillaci, his American girlfriend, on one of the last helicopters to the *USS Kearsage*, which took 31 Britons to Conakry, capital of neighbouring Guinea.

Mr Crooks said his girlfriend had since placed Remate in the care of another Briton. He would not say whether the name on the card was that of a parent, but a couple with the same surname — Angela and Michael Conteh — were among 161 Britons who arrived back on Friday on charter flights.

The Foreign Office said yesterday they had traced the girl's mother in London. "Both she and we believe the girl is in good hands and likely to be travelling on the charter flight to Stansted."

Members of the Sierra Leone community in Britain have offered to look after her child if her parents are not among those already evacuated. Mussar Conteh, who works for Christian Aid in Milton Keynes, said: "My heart goes out when I hear on the World Service what is happening and if there is any way we can help this little girl we will."

Britain's envoy, page 12

Goldsmith family at hospital bedside

Sir James Goldsmith's family were at his bedside in a hospital near Paris. The billionaire businessman and founder of the Referendum Party, who is 64, is critically ill with pancreatic cancer.

Sir James's third wife, Lady Annabel, was joined by his daughter Jemima Khan, who flew in from Pakistan ..... Page 3

Clarke backed

Michael Heseltine endorsed Kenneth Clarke in the Tory leadership contest while Baroness Thatcher urged the three right-wing candidates to form a pact............ Page 2

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Thatcher renews feud with Heseltine

■ Old rivalries have resurfaced in the Tory leadership contest with the former Prime Minister attempting to block Kenneth Clarke's challenge. Andrew Pierce reports

RIVALRY between Baroness Thatcher and Michael Heseltine, who ended her reign as Prime Minister, reignited yesterday in the battle for the Tory leadership.

The former Prime Minister has intervened for the first time to urge the three right-wing candidates to form a pact to ensure only one fights in the second round to stop Kenneth Clarke's campaign gaining unstoppable momentum.

But Mr Heseltine, who has never been forgiven by the Thatcherites, publicly endorsed Mr Clarke. He also confronted Lady Thatcher by warning MPs not to be wooed into a "stop Ken" campaign.

Relations between Lady Thatcher and Mr Clarke, an ardent pro-European, have been cool since he became the first Cabinet minister to tell her she should resign in 1990. Friends of Lady Thatcher maintained yesterday that she was not motivated personally.

"She is an admirer of Ken's political skills," one said last night. But she fears he would back a single currency and cede further sovereignty to Brussels.

The former Prime Minister has made clear that she will not publicly endorse any of the three right-wingers, Peter Lilley, Michael Howard and John Redwood, who have all ruled out, in principle, joining the single currency.

But her intervention behind the scenes reflects growing concern on the Tory Right at the strength of the Clarke campaign. Mr Clarke, who was the architect of the former government's wait-and-see policy on the single currency, yesterday received a further boost when Sir Norman Fowler, the former party chairman, publicly backed him. "He has one of the best temperaments of any politician today. He is entirely unflappable. In short, he has all the qualities that a leader of the Conservative Party needs," he said.

The Clarke campaign will move out into the country when it sends out 1,000 copies of a video in which Mr Clarke, flanked by Mr Heseltine and Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, spells out his vision for the future.

Mr Heseltine, in an article in *The Sunday Times*, infuriated the Eurosceptics by warning that the party would split unless they dropped their campaign to rule out British entry into a single currency. "Unity requires mutual tolerance and respect. Keeping options open on Europe is part of that process." In an interview on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*, Mr Heseltine told MPs not to seek a "negative, stop Clarke" strategy because he might be a long way ahead in the first ballot. "That is not the way to win popular esteem, to command the heights," he said.

Mr Clarke was "at one" with the party on the "vast range" of European issues — except the single currency, said Mr Heseltine. But this issue was "not absolutely at the mainstream of what we will be discussing almost certainly at the next election."

But the three right-wing camps believe that Mr Heseltine's comments and the intervention by Lady Thatcher could harden opinion against Mr Clarke. Some of Mr Clarke's allies feared it could strengthen the appeal of William Hague, whom they fear in a final run-off.

One close ally of Lady Thatcher said: "She is like a number of us: she is anxious that after the first ballot we should rally behind one person to ensure a right-wing candidate succeeds. Ken Clarke is her big worry. Ken Clarke stands for everything she fought against on Europe. He is Geoffrey Howe but with a pint of bitter instead of a glass of whisky. This is not just about the single currency. It is about the whole issue of closer integration in Europe."

William Rees-Mogg, page 20

'Political' make-up of Whitehall increases

By Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor

HUW EVANS

Rachel Lomax who is described as "very, very clever, hard-headed and businesslike"

THE number of political appointments in the Government has been increased by a third, from 40 to 60 posts, Tony Blair will announce today amid Conservative determination to press for a Commons debate on the issue.

The prime minister may be able to fend off his critics with the appointment of Rachel Lomax, Permanent Secretary at the Welsh Office and former pupil of Cheltenham Ladies College, to the key post of strateigic director at the number 10 policy unit. By selecting a civil service high-flyer to one of the most influential posts in government, Mr Blair would be able to argue that his government was not made up of Labour placemen.

Liddle: helped to set up the SDP

Government sources confirmed that Mrs Lomax, 51, a former vice-president of the World Bank in Washington, had been involved in discussions about the role and was expected to transfer from the Welsh Office, a post she has held for just under a year. Mrs Lomax has been prominent in recent Whitehall discussions about devolution and had worked on a draft bill on the proposals for Wales in advance of Labour's election victory.

Mr Blair has been looking for an overall head for the policy unit for some time. The search turned to the higher ranks of the civil services after a small number of business people rejected the post because the salary was not high enough.

Mrs Lomax, who is divorced with two adult sons, has been frequently canvassed for senior government posts and has also been named as a possible successor to Sir Terence Burns, Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, and to Sir Robert Butler, the Cabinet Secretary. A move to head Mr Blair's expanded policy directorate, which is to focus on longer term strategy, would not preclude her from future promotion.

She presently earns between £95,000 and £99,999 a year at the Welsh Office but the head of the No 10 policy unit can earn up to £154,000. Mrs Lomax earned her reputation at the Treasury, which she joined as an economist at 23 after gaining a first in history at Girton College, Cambridge, and a second degree at the London School of Economics.

While her sons were small she worked part time for seven years but when she returned full time she was determined to show her colleagues she was not slacking and accepted the strenuous role as Principal Private Secretary to the former Chancellor, Nigel Lawson.

She impressed ministers and colleagues and rapidly rose through the Treasury ranks and as a deputy secretary she was seconded to the Cabinet Office where she worked alongside Sir Robin Butler at the heart of the government machine.

Last night government sources were predicting an early announcement that she was to head a team of 15 policy advisers, who include David Miliband, a former policy aid to Mr Blair in opposition, who has already been appointed policy director. "Mr Blair wants his new team to plan longer term strategy and to focus on a second term in office and the next election manifesto," one said.

Mrs Lomax is described as "very, very clever, hard-headed and businesslike". She is prepared to fight her corner and can sometimes antagonise colleagues. But Whitehall sources also said last night she had survived a particuarly bitter divorce seven years ago from her former husband, Michael, whom she met at Cambridge and was particuarly close to her two sons, Thomas, a doctor, and Daniel, a disc-jockey.

Other figures recruited to the policy team include Derek Scott, a former economic adviser to Mr Blair, who also worked as special adviser to former chancellor Denis Healy, in the Callaghan administration, and Roger Liddle, who is to work on European policy issues.

Mr Liddle, a former founder of the Social Democratic Party in 1982, also worked as a special adviser to Bill Rodgers, now Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank in the last Labour government and last year was a co-author with Peter Mandelson of a book on New Labour thinking. Last week he resigned his consultancy job with Prima Europe and is to start work at Downing street today.

Black tie may be out but the Budget red box stays

By James Landale, Political Reporter

GORDON BROWN is to keep the tradition of carrying the Budget statement to the House of Commons in a battered red box, first used by William Gladstone in 1860.

Close aides to the Chancellor of the Exchequer denied reports that he was planning to exchange the scuffed scarlet leather box for a more modern and practical briefcase. The old brass-handled box is heavy and can contain only a few papers.

After Mr Brown's recent refusal to wear black tie at a speech to the City, there had been fears that he was intending to make further changes to other traditions surrounding his job. Aides said Mr Brown had not once mentioned scrapping the red box. "I think the Chancellor is more interested in what is in his Budget than what his Budget speech is in," one said.

Mr Brown will be unable to continue one tradition: because he is unmarried he will not be able to stand outside 11 Downing Street with his wife as he holds the Budget box up for the media before heading to the Commons.

Mr Brown will today end weeks of speculation and announce the date of his first Budget in a written answer to the House of Commons. His aides refused to confirm or deny reports that it will be held on Wednesday July 2. The date would break with the tradition that a Budget is always held on a Tuesday. However, it would allow Tony Blair time to return to Britain from attending ceremonies marking the handover of Hong Kong to China on July 1.

Many Budget traditions were created by Gladstone in the second half of the 19th century. Gladstone delivered a series of Budget speeches in the 1850s and 1860s and established the pivotal role of the financial statement as an annual event.

Aides confirmed that, unlike his predecessor Kenneth Clarke, Mr Brown would be unlikely to drink alcohol during his Budget.

Ulster

Continued from page 1

mer's marching season. Amid the backdrop of the sudden intensification in violence, the Prime Minister will hold his first meeting today with George Mitchell, the American senator who is chairman of the multi-party talks.

The two men will meet for 30 minutes in Downing Street before Mr Mitchell returns to Belfast for the resumption of the talks at Stormont tomorrow after a two-month break. The negotiations were adjourned in March to allow Northern Ireland's political parties to fight the general and local elections.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, condemned the murder of Constable Taylor. He joined the RUC in 1974, and was awarded the Good Conduct Medal. He had three children, including a nine-year-old son who has cerebral palsy.

Blair visits jobless

Continued from page 1

Downing Street sources insist nothing has been ruled out of the review.

Frank Field, the Social Security Minister and a key figure on the welfare-to-work Cabinet sub-committee masterminding the proposed changes, is pressing for single parents with children at school who reject suitable offers to lose benefit.

A Downing Street source said: "Long-term solutions will be part of the wider review." However, there are no immediate plans to "haul" single mothers in for interviews. "It is not a gun on the back of the head to say come in or get your benefit stopped. At this stage it is offering help to get the problem looked at."

Labour leftwingers will be anxious about the threat of compulsion. One who declined to be named said: "We need more carrot and the prospect of less stick." But ministers are confident nine out of ten of the 800,000 jobless single mothers would go back to work if the opportunities were there.

Projects would be launched in conjunction with the business community to try to ease such a return, including schools opening later to provide American-style homework evenings. Lottery money could be made available.

Downing Street confirmed that the welfare reforms dominated the discussions between the Prime Minister and President Clinton last week.

In his speech Mr Blair will make clear that everyone, not just the Government, has to face up to their responsibilities in his drive to "give them the will to win. Making Britain one nation was ... a job for everyone."

Camelot directors to be warned over licence

The directors of Camelot will be warned today by Chris Smith, the National Heritage Secretary, to give up huge bonus payments or risk losing their National Lottery licence. Mr Smith has asked civil servants to calculate the costs to the taxpayer and to good causes of terminating the contract, which expires in 2001. Sources at the Department of National Heritage emphasised that nothing had been ruled out although the cost of ending Camelot's licence would probably be prohibitive. The directors will be told that the public is "furious" at the 40 per cent rise in boardroom pay last year when profits and payments to good causes fell.

Winning numbers, page 24

Another E. coli victim dies

An elderly victim of last year's *E. coli 0157* outbreak in central Scotland died yesterday, bringing the death toll in the outbreak to 20. The woman died in Bankview nursing home, where she lived, in Banknock, near Falkirk, Forth Valley Health Board said. She had been confirmed as having the infection during the outbreak that hit Scotland in November and December, and did not fully recover. There have been six deaths in the nursing home.

More MPs to hear call-up

Members of Parliament are to be offered a greater chance to spend time with the Army, Navy and RAF as part of a campaign to expose them to life in the Armed Forces. The Government is considering at least doubling the number of MPs who go on the Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme. At present eight volunteer MPs are dispatched to the three services for 21 days every year. The MPs are expected to take part in all aspects of military life.

Hurd misses out on Master

Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, is thought to be out of the running to replace Sir Michael Atiyah as Master of his *alma mater*, Trinity College, Cambridge. It is not, as has been suggested, because dons do not consider him intellectual enough, but because the Master of the university's richest college, who is appointed by the Queen on the Prime Minister's advice, traditionally retires at 70. Mr Hurd will be 68 at his next birthday.

Murder link investigated

Police investigating the murders of Lin and Megan Russell in Chillenden, Kent, last July have been informed of another hammer attack 30 miles away. A woman threatened by a man with a hammer in an apple orchard near Strood at the weekend managed to escape. A police source said: "Because a hammer was used, any links to the Chillenden case will be examined."

Species controls tightened

Europe-wide rules came into force yesterday banning or tightening controls on trade in more than 25,000 species of animals, birds and plants. The European Wildlife Trade Regulation will stiffen controls at the EU's common external frontier and require individual member states to bring in tougher national laws against wildlife crime or face prosecution in the European Court of Justice.

Computer traces drug trail

A computer system to track South American drug cartels and international money launderers in the Caribbean is being set up by police and the Foreign Office. The network will target traffickers and their cargoes in the British dependencies of Anguilla, the Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Bermuda and Montserrat, which are known conduits for drugs into America and Britain.

Call for free eye tests

More than 150,000 people in Britain do not know they are suffering from glaucoma, a disease that could make them go blind. the Royal National Institute for the Blind, launching an awareness campaign, said half a million people over 60 did not have regular eye tests because of the cost. The charity called for free tests for over-60s and Afro-Caribbeans aged over 25, who are at high risk.

Divorcees escape equity trap

A recovery in the property market is leading to an increase in the number of divorce applications, according to solicitors and estate agents. Couples who agreed to divorce several years ago, but had to keep their homes because of negative equity, are now able to proceed. Mortage lenders report a rise in the number of requests by couples to transfer title deeds from two names to one.

Attacks close care centres

One in ten day-care and residential centres for people with mental health problems have been forced to close over the past five years because of attacks, graffiti and hate mail campaigns by the local community, says the mental health charity MIND. Nearly one in three planned centres have been abandoned over unjustified public fears that the centre users would be violent or paedophiles.

Garden train track derailed

A model train enthusiast has been ordered to remove the miniature steam railway built for his grandsons behind his home in Shiplake Bottom, Oxfordshire. South Oxfordshire District Council says the land, bought by Geoff Manning, 54, for £3,000, must be restored to woodland. "If I had to return it to its previous condition I'd need a lorry load of old mattresses to chuck in it," Mr Manning said.

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Friends concerned for Referendum Party leader

Family flies to bedside of cancer-hit Goldsmith

By Andrew Pierce

THE family of Sir James Goldsmith, who is critically ill with cancer, yesterday gathered at his bedside at a hospital near Paris. His third wife, Annabel, has been joined there by his daughter, Jemima Khan, who flew in from Pakistan.

Sir James, 64, a billionaire businessman, first suffered pancreatic cancer in 1985 but its recurrence was kept secret during the six-week election campaign when he formed and led the Referendum Party. A handful of his closest friends knew and contingency plans were made in case his health failed during his taxing tour of the country. On one occasion, he collapsed in a helicopter after canvassing in Folkestone, having undergone chemotherapy. He was in acute pain for much of the time but refused to heed advice to slow down and fulfilled all his speaking engagements.

Friends were deeply concerned about his condition last night. One said: "I think it is very bad. He is a hero. He fought that campaign, having confided in only a handful of people, despite the most chronic pains. But the campaign took it out of him."

The friends believe the secret illness was a galvanising factor behind his decision to set up the Referendum Party. "He wanted desperately to put Europe at the heart of national debate. He achieved that during the election campaign. I think the cancer stiffened his resolve to give it his all."

Sir James and wife, Annabel: the billionaire's health has been in question for a decade

The financier, who amassed his vast fortune as a corporate raider, having been responsible for some of the most audacious financial coups of the century, invested more than £20 million of his own personal fortune into the Referendum Party. The health of Sir James, an imposing figure at 6ft 4ins, has been in question since 1987 when he was diagnosed as having diabetes, retired in 1989. But he soon co-founded a political party in France. It started with two per cent in the polls, ended up with 13 per cent and he won a seat in the European parliament.

He has had an unconventional love life, with a wife in London and mistress in Paris and eight children.

☐ Cancer of the pancreas attacks men twice as often as women, and the average age at which it is first diagnosed is 55 (Dr Thomas Stuttaford writes). In 80 per cent of cases the tumour initially involves the head of the gland, which lies in the upper abdomen. Nine out of ten cases of pancreatic cancer are inoperable by the time it is diagnosed as it spreads not only locally but to distant parts of the body, in particular the liver, before it produces distinctive symptoms. Fewer than 2 per cent of patients with cancer of the pancreas survive for more than five years.

A patient with cancer of the pancreas usually notices an inexplicable loss of appetite and extreme tiredness following by upper abdominal pain which frequently radiates to the back. Many patients have noticed that the pain is relieved if they bend forwards, or if in bed lie with their knees raised.

Frequently the tumour obstructs the bile duct and results in jaundice and severe skin irritation. If, when the disease is first diagnosed, the patient's symptoms are mainly the result of obstruction of the bile duct surgery may be recommended to bypass the tumour, or a stent, a flexible tube, may be inserted into the duct. Complications which can produce a sudden deterioration in the patient's condition include haemorrhage or problems with blood-sugar levels.

Cancer of the pancreas is of unknown origin. At various times smoking, a high fat diet, diabetes, coffee and alcohol have all been implicated. The current medical thinking is that an excessive intake of alcohol may play a part in the origins of the tumour in a small number of cases but this is not the cause in the majority of cases.

DOUG MARKE

Geoffrey Smith at the recording of *Gardeners' Question Time* yesterday

Radio 4 perennial celebrates 50 years

By Michael Hornsby

THE BBC's hardiest perennial, *Gardeners' Question Time*, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary yesterday with a special recording in an amphitheatre in the National Forest, a vast woodland restoration scheme in the Midlands.

The programme, known affectionately by its fans as *GQT*, was first broadcast on April 9, 1947, from the Broadoak Hotel, Ashton under Lyne, near Manchester. The original panel was made up of Bill Sowerbutts, who stayed for 30 years, Fred Loads, Tom Clark and Dr E.W. Sansome.

In 1994 the entire panel of experts defected from Radio 4 to commercial radio. The resident voices of the day, Dr Stefan Buczacki, Daphne Ledward, Fred Downham, Sue Phillips and Bridget Moody, moved to Classic FM to start the *Classic Gardening Forum*.

Three years on the Classic FM programme has a weekly audience of 450,000, well below the 1.3 million who tune in each week to *GQT*, which is now led by Geoffrey Smith, Pippa Greenwood, Bob Flowerdew, Anne Swithinbank and the chairman Eric Robson. The recording will be broadcast this Sunday.

Forty not out, page 9

Critics line up to kick Channel 5 soccer into touch

By Adrian Lee

CHANNEL 5's attempts to improve its audience share by spending more than £1 million to screen England's World Cup match in Poland appeared yesterday to have backfired, as critics lined up to attack its coverage.

Kenneth Wolstenholme, who commentated on England's 1966 World Cup triumph and gave the nation the expression "They think it's all over — it is now", described the coverage as a disaster. He said: "If England had taken the game as frivolously as Channel 5, they would be out of the World Cup." It was, he added, "an amateur night presented by no-hopers".

Writing in the *News of the World*, he said: "All we got was a succession of spotty kids who were naive, to say the least."

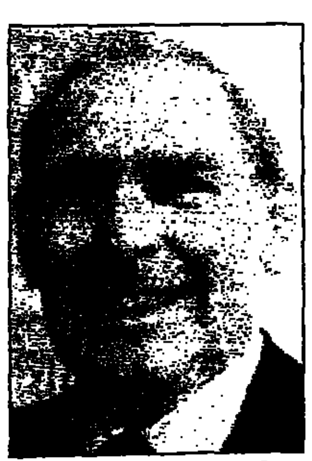
Other pundits were equally astringent. David Emery, writing in the *Mail on Sunday*, said that Channel 5 stuffed its studio with B-list celebrities and "must improve" to keep faith with the fans. Kevin Mitchell, of *The Observer*, said the coverage was "bedevilled by youthful eagerness".

Millions of armchair fans were also disappointed. At least a third of the country remains without Channel 5 and in blackspots, including much of Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, central Wales and Cumbria. Eric Boyland, of Havant, Hampshire, was one of millions who had to wait for highlights later BBC1. "We can't get Channel 5 in this area at all. I follow football and it's the sort of game that I think should be available." Fans in the Portsmouth area described reception as "not even faint".

Although the channel's coverage attracted a peak audience of five million viewers, by far the largest in its short history, it still fell far short of the audience ratings usually secured by the other terrestrial channels. Industry sources said that BBC1 could have expected an audience of about nine million had it secured the rights for the game.

David Elstein, chief executive of Channel 5, said the viewing figures for the World Cup qualifier exceeded expectations. "The decision to bid for this match was made last year and has been fully vindicated." It was a demonstration of the station's potential, he said.

Titanic battle, page 25
Matthew Bond, page 26



Wolstenholme: said the coverage was a disaster

School for cricketing heroes may lose home

By Adrian Lee

THE 119-year old Surrey cricket club where the England prodigies Ben and Adam Hollioake learned to bat and bowl could lose its home.

The players of Send, which has won a reputation as a breeding ground for stars of the future, have been told that their lease is unlikely to be renewed when it expires at the end of this season. Protracted negotiations with the landowner, Mary Foulston, have ended in deadlock.

The Hollioake brothers played for the club's colts team and Adam, 26, is still a registered member who occasionally pads up for Send. He is remembered for hitting 172 runs off 14 overs at the ground. Ashley Giles, of Warwickshire, another England international, also cut his teeth at the club, which was founded in 1878. Send now faces merging with neighbouring Horsley to survive.

Keith Elliot, a first team member, said: "Every other landlord we've had has been proud to have a club like ours on their premises but Mrs Foulston doesn't appear to be interested."

Adam Hollioake, who was selected yesterday for the England squad for the first Test against Australia, said: "I still keep in touch with all the boys down at Send. They're a great bunch of guys and hopefully they can stay at the ground."

The club hopes that the emergence of the Hollioakes this season may persuade Mrs Foulston to reconsider. She refused to comment yesterday.

Cricket, pages 28-30

Office bully turns electronic mail into a silent menace

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE office bully has found a powerful new way to make his victims feel small — electronic mail. Sophisticated systems designed to ease communication are being used to hector and harass, a survey has shown.

The survey, carried out by the software company Novell, is believed to be the first to measure the uses to which electronic mail is put. Jacqui Forrest, Novell's marketing development manager, said: "We were amazed that 94 per cent of respondents said they wasted up to an hour a day reading and responding to irrelevant messages. We were also surprised that more than half said they regularly received abusive messages."

The survey, involving telephone interviews with 1,043 people and carried out by Ronin Research Services, examined only internal systems and excluded e-mail sent via the Internet.

Although more than three quarters said electronic messages were very useful and relevant, more than 50 per cent had received "flame mails" — abusive or critical messages. Men are more often the victims, and the perpetrators, of flame-mail. Men are five times more likely than women to send them, and roughly twice as likely to receive them.

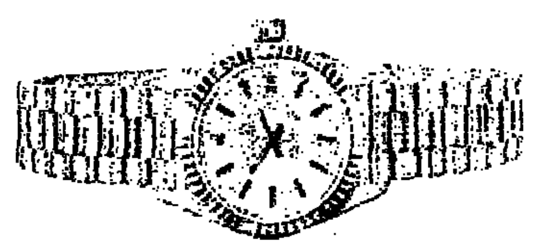
One in 70 of the respondents said they had left their job to avoid abuse. The more common response (31 per cent) was to respond with a similarly abusive reply.

The evidence is that relationships are damaged by the anonymity of abusive messages. Nearly a third of respondents had stopped communicating with a colleague or felt like doing so, while nearly half said electronic messages had reduced face-to-face communication.

Middle managers were the worst offenders. "Managers never have time to talk you through a problem or explain what you should be doing differently," one respondent said.

Ms Forrest said the problem was that companies had introduced messaging systems without any agreed procedures and protocols. Often staff were told to take any complaints about mistreatment to their immediate manager. "But if the manager is the perpetrator, that is very difficult" she said.

☐ *Shaming, Blaming and Flaming: corporate miscommunication in the digital age*, Firefly Communications (25/4 The Coda Centre, 189 Munster Road, London SW6 6AW; £40)



Cecilia Bartoli prizes two instruments above all others. Her voice and her Rolex.

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'Those who governed failed people,' Prime Minister tells 150th commemoration of tragedy

Blair blames Britain for Irish famine deaths

By Nicholas Watt
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MIKE BROWN

Candles for the Great Famine victims at the commemoration concert in Millstreet, Co Cork, at the weekend: a million died of starvation after the potato crops failed

TONY Blair has moved to heal one of the greatest wounds in Anglo-Irish history by criticising Britain for allowing a million people to die in the Great Famine.

In the strongest statement by any Prime Minister on the disaster, Mr Blair said that the Government of the time "failed their people" while the famine ravaged Ireland. His statement, read out to a weekend concert in Co Cork marking the 150th anniversary of the tragedy, was hailed last night by John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister.

Mr Bruton said: "While the statement confronts the past honestly, it does so in a way that heals for the future. The Prime Minister is to be complimented for the thought and care shown in this statement."

Mr Blair's message of reconciliation was read by the Irish actor Gabriel Byrne to more than 15,000 people at the Great Irish Famine Event in Millstreet, Co Cork. In his statement Mr Blair said: "The famine was a defining event in the history of Ireland and of Britain. It has left deep scars. That one million people should have died in what was then part of the richest and most powerful nation in the world is something that still causes pain as we reflect on it today.

"Those who governed in London at the time failed their people through standing by while a crop failure turned into a massive human tragedy. We must not forget such a dreadful event."

Mr Blair paid tribute to the descendants of the famine emigrants who fled to Britain. He said: "Britain in particular has benefited immeasurably from the skills and talents of Irish people, not only in areas such as music, the arts and the caring professions but across the whole spectrum of our political, economic and social life."

The famine, which claimed the lives of more than a million people between 1845 and 1850, is still a highly sensitive issue in Ireland and has left a bitter legacy in Anglo-Irish relations. Historians agree that the British Government could not be held solely responsible for the calamity.

When the potato crop failed through blight every year between 1854 and 1850, food was shipped to Ireland by the Government and charities but the profitable export of grain and cattle was allowed to continue. As wealthy farmers and landowners profited, their tenants starved to death and London was widely accused of doing too little too late by way of relief.

Ireland lost a quarter of its eight million population in six years. In addition to the million who perished in Ireland, a million fled abroad to North America, Australia and New Zealand. Thousands died in horrific conditions reaching their destinations.

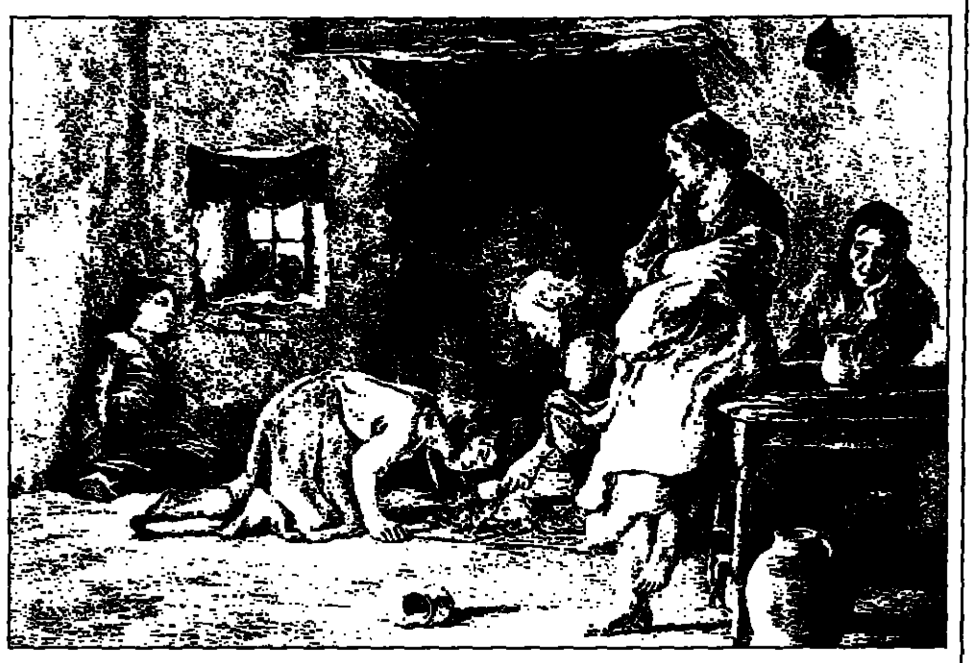
Mr Blair's statement stopped short of the formal apology demanded by some Irish politicians. However, his remarks were seen by observers as a conciliatory gesture and another sign of the Prime Minister's determination to reach out to both traditions in Ireland.

The weekend famine concert in Millstreet featured some of the greatest names in Irish music, including Van Morrison and the Chieftains, although one group, the Hothouse Flowers, refused to appear, saying a rock concert was no place to commemorate the dead.

Mary Robinson, the Irish President, received a standing ovation on Saturday night when she lit a candle in memory of the dead.In a moving speech the President said: "Commemorating the Great Famine is a moral act of remembering and of honouring by our generation.

"A hungry and demoralised people becomes silent. In the last three years in commemorating the famine we have been breaking that silence."

In a pre-recorded interview shown on a giant video screenPresident Clinton described the famine as the "greatest disaster" in the history of Ireland.



Peel's aid was worth £500m in today's money, says historian

By Nicholas Watt

AN IRISH historian says that Tony Blair is wrong to criticise Britain for failing the people of Ireland during the Great Famine. Paul Bew, of Queen's University, Belfast, pointed out that £50 million of relief — £500 million at today's prices — was sent to Ireland to alleviate the suffering.

The Tory Government of Robert Peel, which was in power when the potato blight struck in 1845, was widely praised for the relief it sent to Ireland, the Professor of Irish Politics said. The Whig Government that won power during the famine failed to act as decisively.

"For the first year of the famine, the Government behaved admirably and was praised in Ireland. Even Britain's harshest critics accept that the Peel Government delivered relief directly to Ireland," he said. But he could understand why historians and politicians criticised Britain, because the Whig Government's record on the famine was not as strong.

"The Whigs believed that you could not just give food, and that people should work for it. They rigidly adhered to the logic of market forces."

The famine claimed the lives of more than a million people from 1845 to 1850. Although opposing camps agree that it was a catastrophe of huge proportions, they are sharply divided over who was responsible.

Irish nationalist historians lay the blame squarely at the feet of the British Government for failing to respond adequately. In contrast, the likes of Professor Bew believe that the reasons for the widespread starvation were more complex and that landlords and the middle classes were also at fault.

He quoted from *The Great Irish Famine*, which was written in 1957 by the historians R.D. Edwards and T.D. Williams: "Human limitations and timidity dominate the story of the Great Famine. But of deliberately imposed evil in high positions of responsibility there is little evidence.

"The really great evil lay in the totality of that social order which made such a famine possible and which could tolerate to the extent it did the sufferings and hardships from the failure of the potato crop."

The book, which was funded by Eamon de Valera, the founding father of the Irish Republic, showed that early studies of the famine stopped short of blaming Britain alone. In recent years Britain has faced criticism from nationalist historians such as Corma O Grada. Even his stance pales in comparison with that of some Irish-Americans who have accused Britain of genocide.

Viewers urged to vote for the BBC

By Audrey Magee
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH television has become an election issue in Ireland, where three candidates standing for parliament are calling for the restoration of cheap-rate viewing of BBC and ITV.

The candidates in Waterford, Tipperary and Donegal are attracting strong support in homes recently deprived of British television channels in a legal dispute over transmission rights. Since April about 100,000 households in rural Ireland have been cut off — enough to cause disruptive ripples in voting patterns on polling day next Friday.

Dermot Kirwan, 31, the Community TV candidate, is putting up a strong fight for one of the four seats in Waterford. He runs a "deflector" company, which uses tall masts to pick up and bounce BBC and ITV signals to homes in Waterford. He is not licensed to do so and does not pay royalties or subscriptions to the British broadcasters. The result is cheap television, with subscribers paying about £35 a year for the service.

In April the High Court ruled in favour of licensed cable and satellite suppliers, which charge more than £100 a year. The court declared that Mr Kirwan and the unlicensed suppliers in 12 of the 26 counties were illegal and should be closed. Householders now receive only the three RTE channels.

"It is a very serious issue," Mr Kirwan said. "People have been used to getting good quality television and now they are left with RTE. It is as if they have given up the drink and are suffering withdrawal."

He is portraying himself as a community worker fighting on behalf of the people to "break the monopoly" of the licensed operators, the biggest of whom is Tony O'Reilly, chairman of Independent Newspapers. The Government tried to head off the election challenge by promising to issue licences for the deflector companies, but it has failed to cool the tempers of Mr Kirwan and the other candidates, Thomas Gildea in Donegal South West and Seamus Healy in Tipperary South.

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Casebook of dreams may foretell disease and death

A psychotherapist tells **Ian Murray** of apparent diagnoses yielded by the sleeping mind

A PSYCHOTHERAPIST is categorising dreams in the hope that they may diagnose disease or predict birth and death. Robin Royston has collected more than 200 dreams linked to physical conditions since January, when he first asked people to send their experiences.

Dr Royston, a consultant in Kent and East Sussex, said: "I do not claim to have any explanation for what happens. All I am trying to do is describe the phenomenon, which is always the first stage of any scientific discovery. Once I have defined it, others can take it on and we will see where we go from there."

Dream diagnosis goes back to the ancient Greeks, but until now has not been backed by a sufficient number of case histories to make it plausible. Dr Royston has classified his into seven categories.

They include near-death experiences, predictions of illness and death, and identification of pain. Sweet dreams are those which foretell pregnancy, ways of healing and physiological processes. Women appear to be three times more likely to have such dreams, although this may be because men are less forthcoming.

"These dreams are often very striking ones which haunt a person for years afterwards," Dr Royston said. "They do not know what they mean until something happens afterwards which they immediately relate to their dream."

An example was given by Cherry Davis, 51, a health visitor from Biddenham, Bedfordshire. She said that, although the dream was 15 years ago, it was so vivid that she could remember every detail.

"I was walking with my elder brother John near a river, which was fast-flowing. We were cut off from the river by wire-fencing with wooden posts. We were in open country but on the other side of the river there was a dense wood. Suddenly a small child fell in and quickly began to float down the stream.

"My brother and I started to run, but we were cut off from the child by the fence. My brother shouted: 'Hurry, hurry, his lungs are filling up with water.' The fencing ended and we waded into the shallow water. 'You've got to help me,' my brother said. There the dream ended.

"The very next morning my brother rang to say that his daughter had just given birth to a baby boy. He said, 'He has a heart problem. His lungs are filling up with water. You've got to help.' It quite took my breath away because the words were almost identical to the ones in my dream. It was really scary."

Another of Dr Royston's favourite examples is of a man who dreamt that he was out riding when he was chased by two black panthers. They gained on him and one leapt on his back, digging its claws between his shoulder blades. Men in white coats came and chased off the panthers, and he felt a tremendous elation. As the dream ended, one of the panthers turned back and looked menacingly at him.

A month later the man's wife noticed a mole on his back at the spot where he had felt the panther's claws in his dream. It proved to be a malignant melanoma. "A black panther is a good image for a melanoma, which is usually black," Dr Royston said. "The fact that it looked back at him at the end could be a warning that it would recur if he was not careful."

Some cases that he has collected suggest that the dreamers would have died if they had not heeded their dreams. Maurice Packham, of Horsham, West Sussex, who served aboard an overcrowded Dido-class cruiser in 1943, could find nowhere to sling his hammock when he first went on board. He eventually found an open area, laid out his bedding and went to sleep.

"Then I dreamt of a lions' cage in which the beasts were snarling and clawing the air," he recalled. "The cage was not of stout iron bars but of chickenwire netting." The sailor woke up frightened and found that he had placed his hammock on an electric generator with a danger tag on it. He says he would have been killed when the generator went on.

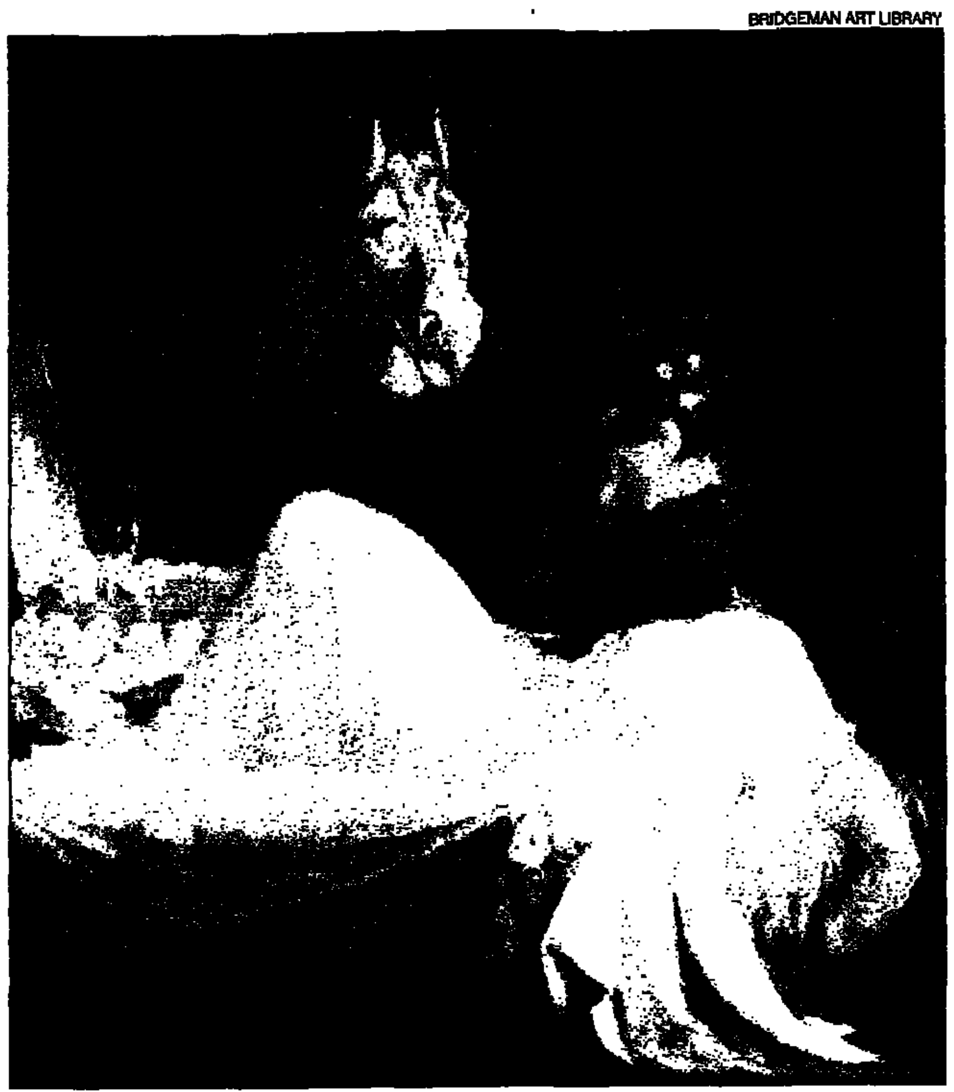
A woman described how she had persistent dreams of two hands trying to clutch her throat, but managed to jump up before they caught her. One night one of the hands, which she recognised as her dead mother's, did just touch her throat. She looked in the mirror and noticed a small swelling. It proved to be a thyroid problem.

Dr Royston said: "I know that doctors are likely to be cynical about these ideas, but the evidence is building up. It would be wrong if people thought dreams were a clear diagnosis. That would just spread anxiety every time someone had a nightmare. But if people can think positively about a connection between their dreams and their bodies, it might help."

☐ *Examples of such dreams may be sent to Dr Royston at Ticehurst House Hospital, Ticehurst, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 7HU.*

Robin Royston says doctors may be cynical but phenomenon must be studied

Davis and Scott Rendall, nephew she dreamt about



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The Nightmare, by Henry Fuseli (1741-1825). Dr Royston believes that bad dreams may predict illness and death, or identify the causes of pain

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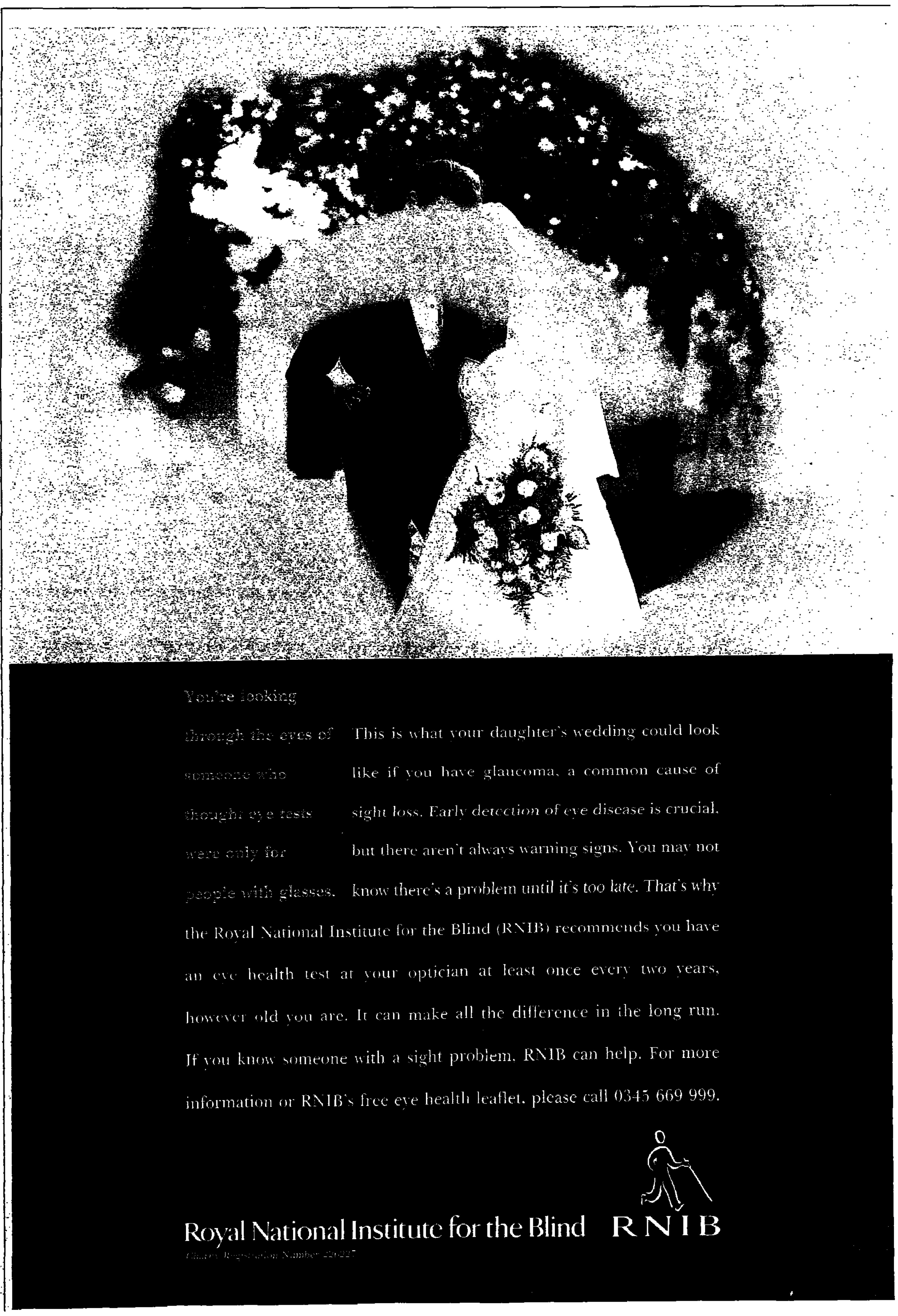

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Private school to launch £10m fund for poorer pupils

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

Stephen: said wealthy might sponsor others

ENGLAND'S largest independent day school is building up a fund of £10 million to cover the fees of every pupil from a deprived background who passes its entrance examination.

The fund will put Manchester Grammar in a new category of "free access" independent schools that ensures no one is denied a place on financial grounds.

Dr Martin Stephen, High Master at the 1,500-pupil school, said the fund was the school's response to the phasing out of the Assisted Places Scheme. More than 250 boys from poor backgrounds receive state subsidies totalling £700,000 to attend the school under the scheme. This week, legislation will be discussed to use the £140 million allocated to the scheme to reduce class sizes for five, six and seven-year-olds.

Last month, *The Times* disclosed that the 24 members of the Girls' Public Day School Trust, which includes Bath, Portsmouth and South Hampstead High Schools, were planning a £70 million scheme to rescue all 3,000 of their assisted places. Manchester Grammar aims to go a step further by guaranteeing places for all boys meeting its traditionally tough academic requirements by paying some or all of the annual £4,300 fees, based on a means test for parents.

The capital endowment will be combined with other ways of funding places. Wealthy parents and old boys will be asked to sponsor a pupil for a minimum of a year. Dr Stephen said yesterday the parents of two current students had already offered to sponsor new pupils.

"Anyone who passes the entry criteria here should be able to take up a place," Dr Stephen said. "Basically, what we are asking people to do is to buy an education for a child."

He said the phasing out of assisted places denied children from the poorest areas of Manchester the chance of benefitting from the school's high academic standards. Manchester Grammar, founded in 1515 by the Bishop of Exeter to prepare able young men for Oxford or Cambridge, consistently tops examination league tables and last year all 200 fifth-formers gained five or more good passes at GCSE.

Dr Stephen said: "You cannot just shut your door on the most deprived parts of Manchester because nowadays it is likely to get in its car and come out and see you. And I detect a genuine fear of the creation of the underclass. You can approach that in two ways — punitively, or use education as the way out of it."

The school still has a long way to go to meet its £10 million target and will officially launch an appeal in January.

Few independent schools can claim they will cover the costs for any parent who needs it. One exception is Christ's Hospital, an 800-pupil boarding school in Horsham, West Sussex, where fees are related to families' ability to pay.

Dick Davison, deputy director of the Independent Schools Information Service, said: "Manchester Grammar would be in a pretty unusual situation if it were able to say that no boy who passes the exam will be turned away. Not many schools would be able to command that kind of financial support."

Woodhead will not be put off by criticism

THE embattled Chief Inspector of Schools yesterday said the vitriol of head teachers would not prevent him highlighting poor classroom practice (David Charter writes).

Chris Woodhead, joint vice-chairman of the Government's new Standards Task Force who was condemned by the National Association of Head Teachers last week, said he had won assurances from the Government that he would not be gagged. He said the vote by the association at its annual conference in Scarborough did not surpise him but left him saddened. "My job is to tell the public how schools are doing, their strengths and weaknesses, and obviously some in the teaching profession think the revealing of weaknesses is unacceptable," Mr Woodhead said on the BBC's *Breakfast with Frost* yesterday.

He said the heads' vote was "a distraction in the sense that schools across the country are raising standards and working positively to the sort of agenda the Education Secretary has announced".

Mr Woodhead said he agreed to join the task force only once his freedom of speech had been guaranteed by the Education Secretary.

The spread of bracken is affecting ponies' grazing land in the New Forest

Bracken invasion threatens survival of heather moors

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

LARGE tracts of Britain's rarest landscapes are being taken over by one of the world's most poisonous and invasive plants: bracken.

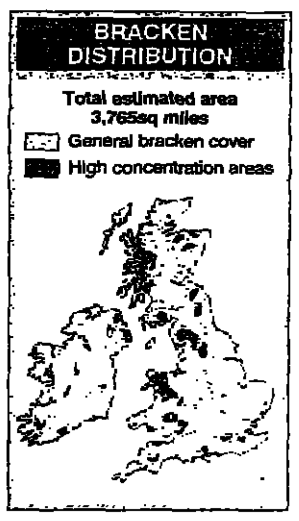
The plant, which harbours disease-carrying ticks and can cause cancer, is invading upland pasture and Britain's remaining stretches of heather moor. The latter accounts for 70 per cent of the world supply of this habitat.

Scientists concerned about the threat have formed the Bracken Advisory Commission to campaign for more research funds. They estimate that bracken now covers 3,765 square miles, and is spreading in places by up to 3 per cent a year. It is particularly prevalent in southwest England, Wales, Cumbria, the Pennines, the North York Moors and the uplands of Scotland.

A study by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1989-1990 estimated that bracken cost livestock farmers about £8 million a year for sheep and cattle killed or made ill by poisoning, extra vets' bills and animals lost in dense thickets. The most serious risk to human health is probably infection with Lyme disease, which is carried by ticks for which bracken is a perfect habitat.

There were about 180 recorded cases of the disease when it was identified in Connecticut in 1975. Last year there were nearly 12,000 cases in the United States. In Britain there are 300 to 350 recorded cases a year, but it is thought up to three times as many may go unreported. The initial symptom is a circular red rash round the tick bite. The infection is easily cured if treated with antibiotics. If not, victims can develop tiredness, headaches, fever, arthritis and heart and central nervous system problems.

Professor Roy Brown, the commission's chairman and a specialist in sustainable land use at Bishop Burton College at Beverley in east Yorkshire, believes global warming will make the situation worse. "With climatic change, bracken could really romp away in northern parts of the country where you get long daylight hours in summer, the key period for growth," he said.



Farmers prepare to fight hedgerow protection plans

FARMERS are preparing for a battle with the Government over its plans to extend controls on the protection of hedgerows, replacing legislation passed just before the Tories lost power (Michael Hornsby writes).

The legislation, which came into force yesterday, requires farmers to notify local authorities of an intention to remove a hedge, allowing time for a protection order to be issued, with unlimited fines as the penalty. Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, has already announced a review: he favours extending the period of notification from six weeks, possibly to a year, and widening the category of hedges eligible for protection. A paper is to be published soon, with a consultation period of up to eight weeks and regulations brought forward in the autumn or the new year.

The move has dismayed farmers who, for several years, tried to dilute the impact of the existing measures. Sir David Naish, president of the National Farmers' Union, said the review would "not provide a balanced and measured analysis" of how the legislation was working.

But conservationists are delighted. Simon Lyster, director-general of The Wildlife Trusts, representing 47 local conservation groups, said: "The type of hedgerow eligible for protection needs to be more broadly defined. Only about a fifth would qualify at present. Under a "get-out clause", he said, farmers could plead financial loss and dig up protected hedges.

Hedges qualify for protection only if they are of great historical importance or of exceptional ecological value. Farmers say that they need reasonable freedom to remove hedges to expand the area available for crops and to maximise the efficient use of machinery.

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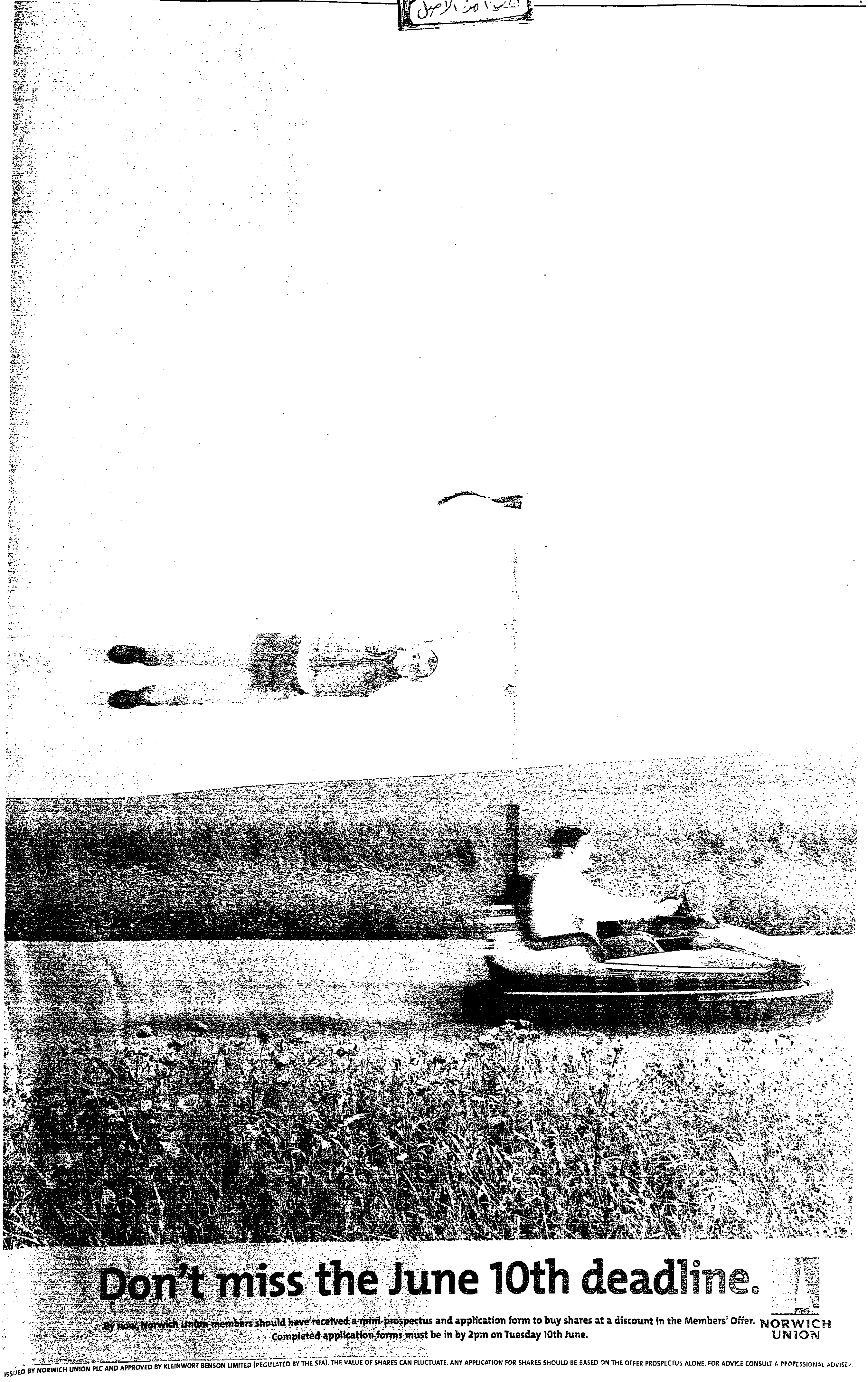

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PEACE OF MIND AS STANDARD? THAT'LL BE THE DAEWOO.

Murder charge nurses 'in high spirits'

From Michael Theodoulou in Nicosia

RELATIVES of the two British nurses accused of murdering a colleague in Saudi Arabia return to England today after finding them in "high spirits" despite reports that the victim's brother was insisting on demanding the death penalty.

One of the lawyers representing Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan said their mood was buoyant because the case against them was collapsing. Salah Hejailan was confident that the court would not accept their alleged confessions because he said that they were made under duress and centred on claims of a lesbian relationship between the three nurses that never existed.

"The meetings were great. They're fine and we're fine," said Ms Parry's sister, Sandra Ashbee, who flew to Saudi Arabia with her husband, John, on Friday. They were accompanied by Ms McLauchlan's father, John, and Grant Ferrie, her fiancé. Tim Lamb, the British Consul in Riyadh, said: "Both women are in high spirits."

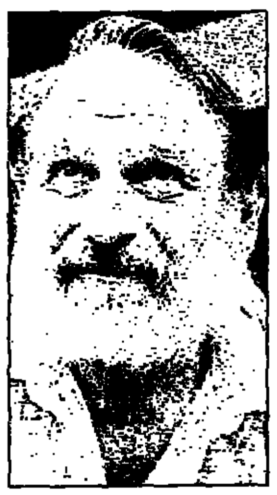
The lawyer for Frank Gilford, the brother of the dead nurse Yvonne Gilford, rejected suggestions that he may be considering a plea from the trial judge to consider accepting "blood money" if the nurses were convicted. "Mr Gilford is resolute in the appropriateness of his decision because of the brutal way his sister was killed," Jim Phipps said.

An Australian television station was to interview the nurses with the permission of the Saudi authorities. The nurses were expected to urge Mr Gilford to reconsider the judge's appeal to accept the possibility of a financial settlement.

"Mr Gilford has misunderstood the court's request," said Mr Hejailan. "The judge wants the Australian family in principle to be conciliatory in case it is needed. But Mr Gilford thinks he can determine the fate of the nurses now. That is not what the judge is asking."

Mr Hejailan dismissed reports that the Australian Government planned to intercede to ensure that the death penalty was ruled out, because "it's based on the assumption that they are guilty".

A senior judicial source in Saudi Arabia said that, even if the nurses were found guilty, there could be no execution unless Mr Gilford or another of close relative was there to witness it.



Gilford: is insisting on death penalty

Juliette Huxley: in one letter Lawrence asked her, "'Was your mind a sexual blank at sixteen? Is anybody's?

Lawrence letters show his despair over Lady Chatterley censorship

By Dalya Alberge, Arts Correspondent

AN IMPORTANT series of letters to a close friend in which D.H. Lawrence expresses despair at the controversy surrounding his last novel *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and rage at the censoring of his paintings is to be sold.

The 14 lengthy letters and three postcards to his confidante, Juliette Huxley, will excite collectors and curators thirsty for documents offering any insight into the author of some of the classics of English literature.

In a letter of April 1928, he suggests that a boy of 16 would be "too bored" by *Lady Chatterley* — the first book to be prosecuted under the Obscene Publications Act — but recommends that at 20, "he *should* read it". But he acknowledges that teenagers are far from disinterested in the subject: "Was your mind a sexual blank at sixteen? Is anybody's?"

Arts 18, 19

The correspondence, which also reveals a disillusionment with an England that did not appreciate him and nagging concerns about his health, was produced over 16 months; the last letter was written eight months before his death in March 1930. Lady Huxley, who was one of the first to be asked to read the manuscript of *Lady Chatterley*, was born in Switzerland and came to Britain as a governess. She married Sir Julian Huxley, the zoologist brother of the writer Aldous. She died in 1994, at the age of 97.

The letters, with most of their original envelopes, are priced at £35,000 and will be offered by the booksellers Maggs Bros at the thirty-eighth Antiquarian Bookfair at Grosvenor House in central London from June 26 to 28.

Edward Maggs said: "It is one of the most revealing series of letters about his state of mind and his hopes and fears for the book. These are living, breathing objects."

In one letter, dated April 1928, Lawrence complains of "a tussle" over *Lady Chatterley*: "Publishers, agents etc in London holding hands of pious horror .. and trying to make me feel disastrously in the wrong." A month earlier, he writes that the novel was being printed by a "little printer, in Florence, in an old little shop where nobody understands a word of English". He says that the publisher, Secker, "can't see a possibility of making the book fit for public presentation, even expurgated".

By July that year, from a chalet about 4,000ft up a mountain near Bern, he writes: "I feel so safe up here, from all the slings and arrows that will come back at me." A month later he says that he is soon due in England. "But really, people in England make me so mad what with one thing and another — especially *Lady C* — that I feel I'd be downright ill if I saw those dirty cliffs of Dover just now ... I have lost a good many friends over *Lady C*, but such friends I am thankful to lose."

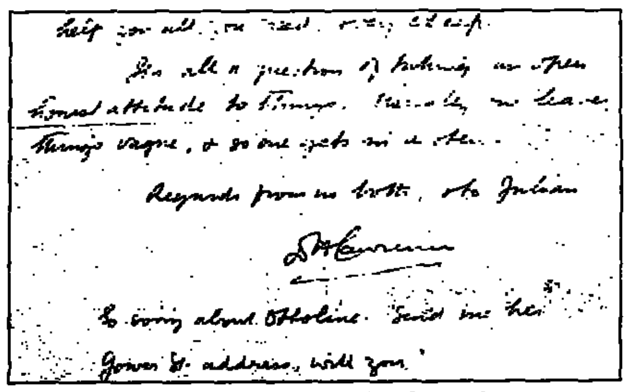
Copies of the 1928 Florence edition were confiscated by English customs officers. In February 1929, Lawrence reports that "the police have suddenly started seizing all copies of *Lady C* ... I want to make a row: can't sit down to it. All too exasperating ... I want to go to Spain — to Majorca ... I long to get away from everything, especially everything connected with literature."

In July 1929, he expresses anger over the controversy surrounding his paintings — erotic images which were banned from display in Britain in 1929. "Awful fuss about the pictures — shall burst with rage if they burn them."

Lawrence, who was dogged by ill health, and who died from tuberculosis aged 44, made several references to a cough and a bad chest. From Bandol, in France, in December 1928: "At present, the combination of hot sun & cold thin wind has made my bronchials sore, as it always does."

John Byrne, a specialist in 20th-century manuscripts, said: "Their iconic value is every bit as valuable as their scholarly value."

> ❛ England makes me so mad. I'd be ill if I saw those dirty cliffs of Dover now ❜



[illegible]

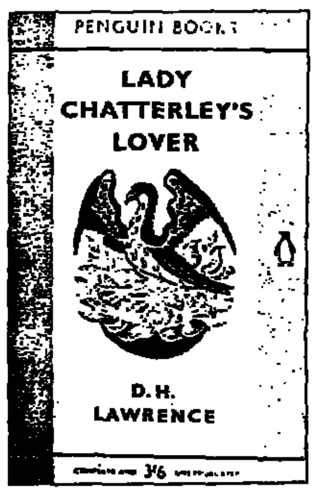
It's all a question of holding an open honest attitude to things. Usually we leave things vague, & so one gets in a stew.

Regards from us both, & to Julian

DHLawrence

So sorry about Ottoline. Send me her Gower St. address, will you.

Lawrence told of copies of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* being seized. "I long to get away from everything"



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Body found on beach with £1,000 in pocket

The body of a man in his 30s has been washed up on a remote beach with £1,000 in his pocket. He had been stabbed twice in the heart and police believe he could have been in the sea for a month.

The body was found at Winterton, Norfolk; a post-mortem examination showed that the stab wounds would have been fatal. Detectives are still trying to trace the victim's identity. The cash, in new notes, was in a black leather wallet, with a key for a new Renault car.

Air force

Police are to instal high-tech cameras on advertising airships hovering 1,500ft above party conference venues at Brighton and Blackpool this summer to monitor crowds, traffic, demonstrators, the movements of VIPs and police deployment. Police say the method attracts less attention than using helicopters.

Lung disease toll

One in five Britons will die each year from lung disease, according to analysis by the British Lung Foundation. The figures, published to coincide with the launch today of Breathe Easy Week, disclose that just over a quarter will die from lung cancer, which now claims 40,000 lives a year.

Plea to US flyers

RAF Cosford, Warwickshire, is seeking American airmen who served in the Second World War, Korea or Vietnam to authenticate details of an air show on Sunday celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the US Air Force. It will include the Flying Fortress *Sally B*, featured in the film *Memphis Belle*.

Preying on birds

Thieves have taken 15 of the 22 goshawk chicks born in the Peak District this year. Samples of DNA have now been taken from the feathers of the remaining birds. The technique will enable Derbyshire police to identify any chicks sold. The birds fetch high prices after they have been trained for hawking.

Teacher killed

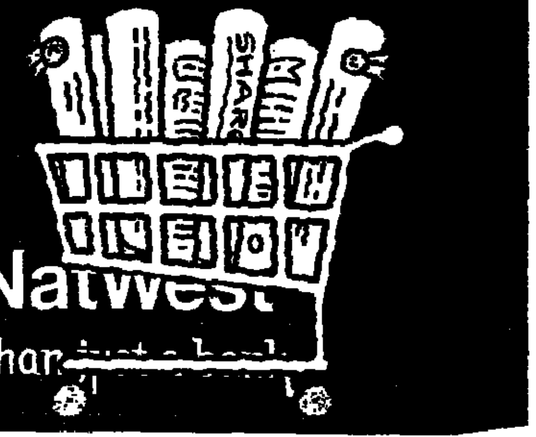
A music teacher was killed when he was hit by a lorry on the A9 near Pitlochry on the second day of a sponsored round-Britain cycle ride. Nigel Hester, 24, of Barnard Castle School, Co Durham, was hoping to raise money to fund a year working with Voluntary Services Overseas as a teacher in Peru.

Bullimore delay

Storm-force winds delayed the start of a round-Europe race in which the British yachtsman Tony Bullimore is competing. It is his first race since being rescued from the Southern Ocean five months ago. He said he was disappointed at not being able to take advantage of the winds.

Yachting, page 37

Which bank lets you buy and sell Halifax shares in over 1,800 High Streets?



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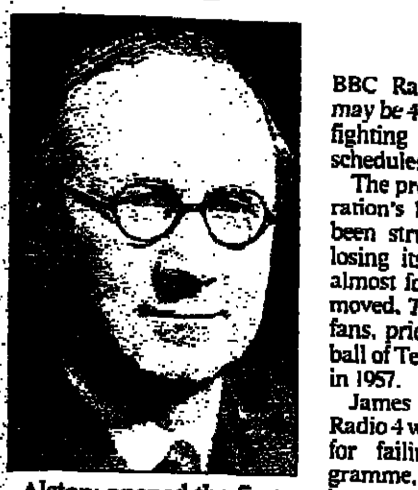
Aggers and Co on sticky wicket as they hit 40 not out


Alston: opened the first *TMS* with John Arlott

By Peter Foster

BBC Radio's *Test Match Special may be 40 years not out*, but it is still fighting for a regular place in the schedules.

The programme, one of the corporation's best-loved institutions, has been struggling for air time since losing its regular slot on Radio 3 almost four years ago. *Until it was* moved, *TMS*, as it is referred to by fans, prided itself on not missing a ball of Test cricket since its inception in 1957.

James Boyle, the controller of Radio 4 who is blamed by many fans for failing to support the programme, is to visit the commentary box at Edgbaston on Thursday, when England begin the task of trying to reclaim the Ashes. Jonathan Agnew, the BBC's cricket correspondent and a former England bowler, yesterday called on the BBC to put the programme on a surer footing. "For the sake of our large and loyal troop of listeners, who have put up with a lot of changes in the last few years, it would be nice to see a long-term *commitment to the programme* from the BBC," he said.

Both Agnew and Peter Baxter, the producer, are looking forward to discussing the future of the programme with Mr Boyle, who refused to give a commitment to *TMS* when he was appointed controller of Radio 4.

Nevertheless, Thursday will be a special day for fans of *TMS* who spend much of the summer baking cakes and writing cards for the commentary team. Fittingly, the 40th anniversary Test is being played at Edgbaston where, in May 1957, Rex Alston and John Arlott broadcast the first edition. England were playing the West Indies and the match featured the record stand of 411 between Peter May and Colin Cowdrey.

Cricket........................ pages 28-30

The programme's informal but knowledgeable tone dated from the 1930s, *when the BBC's original* cricket commentator, Howard Marshall, made half-hour broadcasts on the old Home Service. Ball by ball commentary began on the Third Programme.

Arlott, with his rich Hampshire burr, is still rated by Baxter as the best commentator to grace the *TMS* box. "He was a true genius, a poet who could put actions into words perfectly," Mr Baxter said. He described Clive Lloyd, the former West Indian captain, smashing an English bowler for six over square leg: "That was the stroke of a man knocking the thistle top off with a walking stick."

Brian Johnston popularised the show with his schoolboy humour and endless pranks and practical *jokes. It was "Jonners" who devised* the nicknames for his colleagues: Bill Frindal, the scorer, became the "bearded wonder"; Neville Oliver, an Australian, "The Doctor" after his initials, which spelt the name of the fictional James Bond villain: Henry Blofeld "Bloers"; and latterly Agnew "Aggers".

Baxter remembers that working with Jonners was not always easy. After the infamous "leg over" incident, which involving Ian Botham vaulting the stumps to avoid hitting them, when Agnew and Johnston collapsed giggling, he was forced to take action. "I let them do one more summary together, but they corpsed again and I had to split them up."

Baxter is conscious of recent criticism by listeners that too much *cricket is clogging the longwave* frequency on Radio 4. "But the cakes and cards keep coming, so we can't be doing anything too wrong."

Marshall: set the tone with reports in 1930s

Parents to sue over vaccines that led to brain damage

By Ian Murray, medical correspondent

PARENTS of children who became brain-damaged after routine vaccinations are to sue drug companies in an effort to gain more compensation than the £30,000 maximum permitted.

In a series of test cases, they will try to prove that some batches were faulty and thus responsible for a much higher proportion of children being brain-damaged than those immunised with correctly manufactured vaccines.

A meeting of 100 parents agreed in London yesterday to adopt this tactic after being advised that they would be unable to obtain legal aid if they tried to argue that doctors had been negligent in vaccinating the children or that the routine immunisation programme was inherently dangerous. "We were told that because of the difficulty in establishing causation of brain damage there was no chance of getting legal aid," said Rosemary Fox, the association's secretary. "We are therefore going to try to prove that there was something wrong with the batches of vaccine used on our children."

Mrs Fox's daughter, Helen, has not developed mentally since being given a polio vaccine 35 years ago. "Polio has almost been eliminated from the world because of the vaccination programme but my daughter was destroyed by it," she said.

"The world has benefited but the tiny number of people who have suffered to make it a safer place have been forgotten."

The association hopes to be able to use as precedent a case in Ireland in 1993, when the High Court in Dublin ordered the Wellcome Foundation to pay £2.75 million damages to a 24-year-old man who had been brain-damaged after a whooping cough vaccination when he was two. After a 20-year legal battle, the court ruled that the brain damage occurred because the company had produced an excessively toxic vaccine.

The campaign for compensation began in 1974 when the Government agreed to give victims a maximum one-off compensation award of £10,000. This was increased to £30,000 in 1979. Around 850 parents have received compensation, with an average of two or three new cases acknowledged each year.

"We have been collecting statistical evidence about batches which we hope will prove that some were more dangerous than others," Mrs Fox said after yesterday's meeting.

"All the cases will involve children who are now in the their twenties and thirties but we hope they will set a precedent which other parents will be able to use," she added.

The association's QC, Daniel Brennan, is president of the Personal Injury Bar Association. Eighteen months ago he obtained £1.25 million damages against a health authority for a 33-year-old man who had been brain-damaged by his treatment in the hospital a *month after his birth.*

Jacob Rabinowicz, chairman of the association's solicitors' committee, said: "Compensation is ridiculously low. These unfortunate children are the casualties of the war against disease. Society should pay for those casualties.

"We have enough good evidence to get the cases off the ground and if we can persuade the court that there are significant reactions to a batch of vaccine then that should clear the way for others. The system of vaccinations has not changed down the years so the old cases are perfectly relevant."

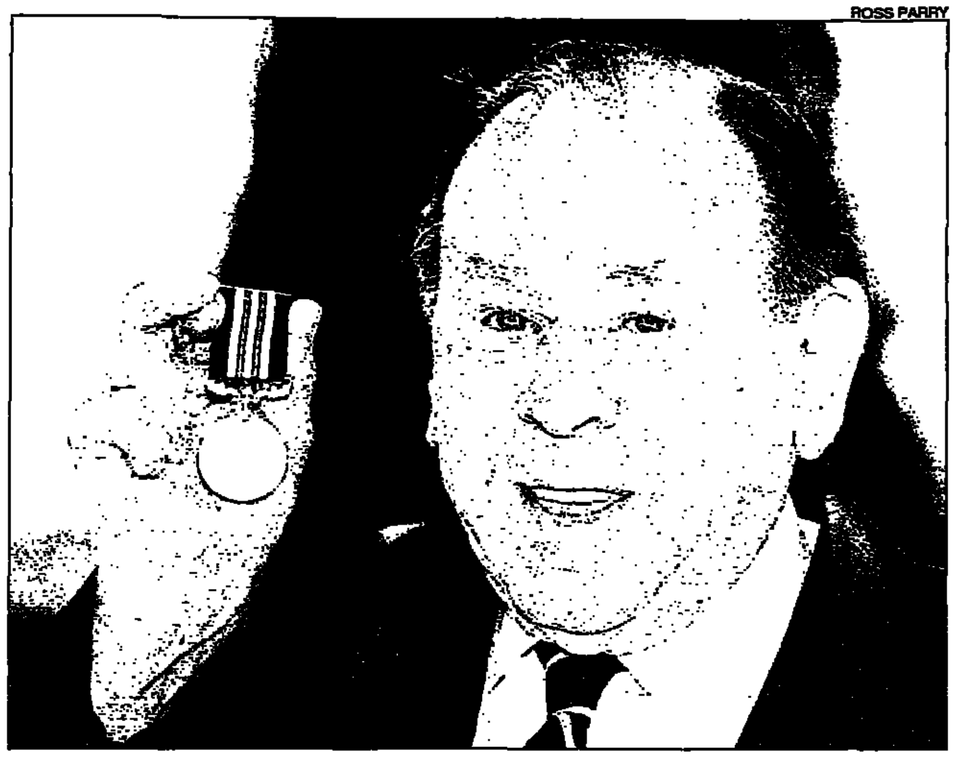
Clinic gave girl, 10, condoms and Pill

A HEALTH trust is to investigate claims that a 10-year-old girl was issued with condoms and a three-month supply of birth control pills.

The girl's mother said she told her daughter to give a false name and pose as a 13-year-old to show how easily children could obtain contraceptives on the health service. Karen Eslick, 31, a divorced mother of three, said no checks were made by the family planning clinic about her daughter's age. She said she and other concerned mothers sent in two other girls, aged 12 and 13, who asked for the Pill.

"It's disgraceful and shows these places are encouraging under-age sex," she said. "I have no regrets about sending my little girl to the clinic. It was her choice."

She said a woman doctor at the Amelia Nutt clinic in Bristol had supplied her daughter with contraceptives. The United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust said any complaint by Mrs Eslick would be looked into.


ROSS PARRY

Harry Ward with the medal that had awaited him on his mother's sideboard

Fifty years on, war hero receives a royal salute

A VETERAN of the Second World War is to be presented with his bravery medal by the Queen Mother 53 years after he won it for rescuing two injured soldiers from the front line.

Harry Ward was due to be presented with the Military Medal in 1944 by George VI, but because of the King's *failing health it was posted to* Mr Ward's parents a few days before he returned home. Now it will be pinned to the 77-year-old's chest at a ceremony at Claridge's in London on June 12.

In the same month in 1944, Lance Corporal Ward's regiment, The 1/4 Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, fought the Germans for control of the French village of Cristot. The regiment was settled into its rest area when *another regiment* ran into difficulties just north of the village.

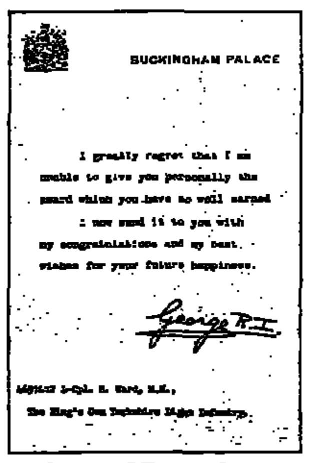
Mr Ward, of Pontefract, west Yorkshire, who was a stretcher bearer, said: "They were under heavy machine-gun fire and there were many casualties. We saw two wounded men lying about *200 yards away. I left my* party behind a hedge and crawled on my stomach to where the first man lay. I can remember that he was an officer.

"I could see he was too badly injured to be left there, so I bound his wrists together with some string, placed his arms around my neck and dragged him under me to safety. It worked so well that I went back and used the same procedure with the other injured man."

In November 1944, Corporal Ward was told by his commanding officer that he was to be awarded the Military Medal, second only to the Victoria Cross. But when the 24-year-old hero arrived home he found his medal on his mother's sideboard with a note of apology from Buckingham Palace.

He said: "I was very disappointed. Although I hadn't expected the medal as I only did my duty, I have to confess I was looking forward to *going to the Palace and it was* my dream to meet the King.

"But now it looks like my dream is coming true. It's going to be the best day of my life."


BUCKINGHAM PALACE

I greatly regret that I am unable to give you personally the award which you have so well earned I now send it to you with my congratulations and my best wishes for your future happiness.

George R.I.

[illegible] L-Cpl. H. Ward, M.M.,
The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

George VI's apology to Mr Ward in 1944

Gunpowder Plot man's home to go on public view

By Mark Henderson

AN ESTATE that was owned by the chief instigator of the Gunpowder Plot is to open to *the public this summer.*

Chastleton House and Park, near Stow-on-the-Wold, in Gloucestershire, will open its doors on September 10, after restoration by the National Trust which took six years. The estate was owned by Robert Catesby until 1602, when he was forced to sell it to pay a fine incurred for joining the Earl of Essex's rebellion against Elizabeth I.

A Roman Catholic, Catesby was fined and imprisoned for *recusancy, and was involved* in several conspiracies against Elizabeth and James I. In 1604 he began to assemble the band of Catholic zealots who planned to blow up Parliament on November 5, 1605. After the plot was uncovered, Catesby was shot while resisting arrest in Holbeche House, Staffordshire.

Between 1605 and 1612, Walter Jones, who had bought the Chastleton estate from Catesby, built the Jacobean mansion which stands today. Arthur Jones fought for the Cavaliers in the Civil War, and hid from Roundhead troops in a secret room.

The Jones family continued to live in the house until 1991, when it was sold to the National Heritage Memorial *Fund for £1 million and given* to the National Trust.

Almost all the furniture and wall hangings featured in a 1612 inventory of the house are still on show, including two sets of 16th-century Flemish tapestries, and curtains. The original glass in the windows is among the finest examples of 17th-century glazing in this country, and some of the window lead is named and dated.

The plaster ceilings of the Great Chamber and the Long *Gallery are thought to have* been the work of Jacobean masters who also decorated Oxford colleges. A collection of 2,700 books and about 200 pamphlets has been restored, and a collection of Jones family portraits. Lisa Ramshaw, of the Thames and Chiltern area National Trust said that Chastleton House was a remarkable example of a 17th-century home as it was lived in.

Those wishing to visit the house will have to book tickets in advance, for a specific time, as numbers have to be limited to protect the 17th-century floors and staircases. Tickets go on sale from August 5.

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Risks of life-saving therapies are usually worth taking

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE BBC programme *Panorama* this evening investigates the side effects of radiotherapy and quotes instances in which patients have suffered severe disability from their treatment. The programme is likley to cause some irritation in medical circles and considerable *alarm, most of it unnecessary,* in those patients who are about to undergo this often life-saving, and even more frequently life-prolonging therapy.

There is no effective treatment whether with surgery, radiation, or drugs which, will not sometimes cause greater damage than is usual. All medicine is a matter of assessing a risk-benefit analysis in which the expected advantages of any therapy have to be weighed against its likely consequences.

The doctor's role in any particular case is to explain the points for and against the treatment to their patients, and likely cost of the disease if it is left untreated. The doctor's role is also to protect the patient from the over-enthusiasm some colleagues might have for a particular new line in treatment, or conversely an over-conservative approach taken by others who are liable to reject *medical advances.*

The patient's views are always paramount and in a consultation the doctor's task can now be likened to that of a judge in his summing up for the patient, who is the one person jury.

Unfortunately, mistakes are ocassionaly made and the wrong dosage is delivered in *the radiotherapy department.* In other cases too heavy a dose of a drug, or the wrong drug, is prescribed in the wards, surgery or out-patients — or a surgeon when removing a diseased part of the body cuts into or destroys some healthy tissue — but this doesn't undermind the reasons for using this form of treatment in the first place.

The outcry a few years ago by campaigning organisations against radiotherapy in the treatent of breast cancer resulted in several major hospitals withdrawing this form of *treatment.* Later, less publicised but detailed and extensive critical research showed that radiotherapy saved the lives of many people with breast cancer. The advantages of radiotherapy outweighed its disadvantages. The initial campaign, however well-intensioned, must have cost lives, which may not have been entirely wasted as the procedures now being used have, as a result, been refined so that side-effects are less frequent.

The difficulty in using radiotherapy is to target cancerous cells with such precision that nearby healthy tissue is not either destroyed or so affected that in old age it fails before *the rest of the body.*

Radiotherapy will cure many tumours by itself, in other cases it will, when used in conjunction with other treatments, improve the likelihood of survival. When assessing its advantages, and the *Panorama* programme, viewers should remember that those who have had to suffer from disease often have an intense anger, similar to that experienced during grief. This approach does not always allow campaigners to adopt the dispassionate stance needed to help others who may develop similar troubles later.

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Albright: send war criminals for trial

Albright turns on Balkan leaders

FROM TOM WALKER
IN BELGRADE

THE American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, concluded yesterday *a bruising tour of the* former Yugoslavia during which she confronted Serbia's Slobodan Milosevic *and Croatia's Franjo Tudjman* over their miserable *records* in *honouring* the Dayton peace accord.

With a year left before American troops are due *to pull out from Bosnia,* the peace process is a shambles. Mrs Albright bloodied the noses of both *Presidents,* warning Mr Milosevic that if he continues to stonewall on sending war criminals for trial at The Hague, Serbia's isolation will deepen.

Earlier in Zagreb she left President Tudjman with an uncompromising message about worsening relations with Washington. She cited the tendency of Croatian police to ignore crimes against Serbs attempting to resettle in their "cleansed" homeland of Krajina.

In Brcko in Republika Srpska, the Serb-held Bosnian territory that is implacably opposed to the peace process, she said: "Make no mistake, a price will be paid for the atrocities committed here."

Gambler Chirac deals himself a losing hand

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

FRENCH ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT Chirac's election gamble was a simple one: dissolve parliament, win a renewed if reduced majority for the centre-right coalition, confirm arch-technocrat Alain Juppé as Prime Minister to *push through European* economic and monetary union, sit back *and enjoy the* remaining five years of the presidency *and then* get re-elected for seven more years in 2002.

Simple, seductive and disastrous. Even before last night's vote, it was clear that the French President had badly *misjudged* his gambit and would emerge from the parliamentary elections a substantially weakened figure.

The moment when M Chirac's plans went wrong can be identified precisely: *the* first-round poll results that *came through on* Sunday, May 25, flatly contradicted the opinion pollsters by *showing* that voters *had* strongly rejected *the Government's* austere recipe for joining the single European currency. From *that* instant, the President and his *allies* were *on the skids.*

M Chirac's painful dilemma *was aptly symbolised* at the final of the French rugby championships on *Saturday* night. Beside the President sat *Philippe Séguin,* the parliamentary Speaker and the man brought in to replace the ousted M Juppé as Prime *Minister-apparent and the* last hope of the Centre-Right.

A vigorous (although recently more reticent) opponent of the Maastricht treaty, the socially caring M Séguin, who *now favours a kinder, softer* euro taking second place to job creation, represents much that M Chirac despises.

The two dislike each other profoundly. But just feet away watching the rugby match in the presidential stand sat Lionel *Jospin, the Socialist leader* and, from M Chirac's point of *view, the greater of two evils.*

Knowing that within 24 hours he would probably be facing the unpleasant prospect of *sharing* power with one or the other, it was no wonder that the President's mind did not seem to be on the unfolding match, but on the game he had already lost. The situation, however, was entirely of his own making.

Having repeatedly insisted that his powers to dissolve parliament would be used only in the event of a national emergency, the President then employed them for reasons that were *purely* cynical and largely personal — knowing that waiting until the parliament's full term was up next March would be to invite all but certain electoral calamity.

The President and M Juppé never admitted openly that *their ruse* was to win parliamentary leverage for another round of cost-cutting in the run-up to EMU, but the electorate saw through them — and delivered a stinging *riposte.* Until then it had been a lacklustre campaign. But what had appeared to be voter indifference was, in retrospect, *a seething silence.*

The ousting of M Juppé in the wake of the first-round debacle smacked of *desperation and disloyalty. Long after* the Prime Minister *announced that he would step* down he continued to wander *the campaign trail, an unlamented* but ever-visible martyr and proof of M Chirac's greatest political error.

PATRICK GARDIN / AP

President Chirac enters his car after voting at Sarran, central France, *in the second* round of the country's parliamentary elections yesterday. Some 39 million voters were due to choose 577 National Assembly deputies

The last-minute alliance of *M Séguin* and Alain Madelin was hailed as a "dream team" but; *while he gave them his* veiled benediction, from M *Chirac's standpoint the combination* of a man he had passed *over for the premiership* and one sacked for ardent free-*marketeering had all the hallmarks* of a nightmare.

Almost every aspect of M Chirac's election calculation has backfired: he wanted a coherent, tigher centre-right ruling group, but has emerged *with a coalition more* bitterly fractious and riven by ideological *differences.*

He wanted to see M Juppé *continue* as *Prime Minister;* instead, he has M *Juppé's blood on his hands* and, *in his* place as the figurehead of the Centre-Right, M Séguin, the standard-bearer of Euroscepticism and a certain future contender *for the presidency.*

He *had hoped to* boost his *personal standing but now* appears to be fragile, compromised *and facing an* uncertain and frustrating future.

Above all, he intended the elections to confirm France's *drive* to a single *currency,* to provide the final burst of *energy that would enable him* to *make* good on the commitment to which he has sacrificed all others.

Instead his attempt to secure the single currency has radically, perhaps *fatally,* undermined it.

☐ **Marseilles:** Police defused *an explosive device at a polling* station in a school here. The 3.3lb "*bomb" was made of six* sticks of dynamite. *(AFP)*

Peter Riddell, page 20

Rome's Albania policy plunged into crisis

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

ITALY'S Albanian policy was in disarray yesterday following the abrupt resignation of its newly nominated Ambassador to Tirana and controversy over the appointment of an Italian "Commissioner Extraordinary" to "oversee the reconstruction of Albania", a move compared by some commentators to "Mussolini-style colonialism".

Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister, yesterday travelled to Albania to hold *crisis* talks with both President Berisha and Bashkim Fino, who heads a cross-party "coalition of national unity".

Allegations by the Albanian Socialists that Paolo Foresti, the Italian Ambassador to Tirana, was openly pro-Berisha came to a head last week when an Albanian newspaper published the alleged transcript of a telephone conversation between Signor Foresti and Tritan Shehu, chairman of the Democratic Party, in which the Italian envoy appeared to offer his help in ensuring a Democratic Party election victory. At the weekend *Signor Foresti, who claimed the transcript* was fabricated, was "transferred to another post", and Lamberto Dini, the Foreign Minister, named his successor as Manfredo Incisa di Camerana. But Signor Incisa, dismayed Signor Dini by telling *La Repubblica* that Signor Foresti had "always had a political viewpoint" and that the Foreign Ministry under Signor Dini was "going through a period of weakness". Yesterday Signor Incisa said his remarks had been "off the record", but offered to step down. His offer was accepted.

General Franco Angioni, 63, appointed *as* "Commissioner Extraordinary" in Albania, is a popular ex-paratrooper who led Italian troops in Lebanon. He is to "co-ordinate Italian initiatives in the reconstruction of Albania", but commentators said this was uncomfortably reminiscent of Italy's economic penetration of Albania in the 1920s and its subsequent wartime occupation of the country.

La Stampa said the appointment highlighted the confusion over the Italian mandate, and it remained unclear whether Italian troops had entered the country to protect aid convoys, or reinforce Italian control of the country's economy.

Ferrari marks 50th year with Rome rally

Rome: Italy yesterday celebrated a name which more than any other symbolises its unashamed love affair with speed, noise and curves in the right places, as 250 Ferraris from 1947 to the present day roared throatily through Rome in a rally to mark the company's fiftieth anniversary (Richard Owen writes).

For once nobody complained about traffic congestion or pollution: the very word Ferrari, and the symbol of the prancing horse on its bonnet, bring tears to the eyes of Italians.

The lovingly polished cars, from the original Ferrari 125S to the latest Formula One monsters and the white F375 given to Ingrid Bergman by Roberto Rossellini, growled their way from the Olympic Stadium past St Peter's and through the centre to the Baths of Caracalla.

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NISSAN

Back with a vengeance

Kohl calls the shots in battle of the bullion

INSIDE

Roger Boyes

GERMANY

The Titanic exhibition in Hamburg, housed in a gaunt dockside warehouse, is worth a visit not only because of its special effects that spin the illusion of being trapped under water. The doomed liner naturally lends itself to political metaphor. Like the *Titanic*, the euro — one tries *to avoid saying the SS Euro* — was regarded as unsinkable. Hence the shortage of lifeboats. The ship had three classes of passenger, all finely togged out, chattering gaily until the collision.

Over the past week German cartoonists have stumbled on the parallels. The captain who blew his brains out is depicted as Helmut Kohl or Theo Waigel. The role of the iceberg is played by the Bundesbank (Buba). Yet despite the *Schadenfreude* in Britain, and the twitchiness of the markets, the euro is not yet sunk and the captain may stay on the bridge for a while. Icebergs lurk 80 per cent below the surface.

As long as the political classes of France and Germany want the euro, it will happen. That will may be sapped by events opening the way for postponement. But the saga of the Rhine or, more properly, the Maingold will not be as decisive as is assumed by the markets or by Germany's anxious neighbours.

The plan to revalue the gold was a foolish move because of its hopeless timing, announced in the middle of a parliamentary debate about the European economic and monetary union. The hint of panic, of rabbits being tugged out of hats, demonstrated that Herr Waigel, the Finance Minister, has lost his political touch. But considered answers to the right questions suggest that, while the euro may have been driven off course, it has not been holed.

Does the Maingold belong to the Buba? No. It belongs to the nation, was due to be revalued anyway and can be used to the benefit of central and regional government finances. Revaluation was first suggested by the Bundesbank, although not as a means of bailing out the budget.

Can Buba alter the political calculus? No. the Bundesbank law can and will be changed to allow the gold revaluation to take place. Some younger Christian Democrats are threatening a backbench revolt when the draft comes to parliament. This threat will fizzle out.

Will the Buba's doubts about gold influence popular opinion about the euro? Unlikely. Even when it is right the bank is not loved by Germans. It opposed a 1:1 exchange rate for East German marks and was overruled by the Government. Despite the cost, the popular verdict was that the Chancellor won the day. Anyway, the people are not being consulted on the euro. They can deliver their verdict on the Chancellor in October 1998, after the euro is a done deal.

Would Bonn be seriously hurt by a negative euro assessment by the Buba? Perhaps. A compromise on gold is being worked out. The power brokers met in the chancellery last night. On Thursday Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank president, addresses the parliamentary financial committee. Whatever the terms — Herr Waigel may choose to profit from the gold revaluation next year, rather than in 1997, to limit damage to the euro — they will show that Bonn, not Frankfurt, is calling the shots.

Behind Herr Kohl there is a broad cross-party consensus for the euro. Behind Herr Tietmeyer there is an institution only a few years from self-destruction.

There is no question of Herr Tietmeyer being on the verge of resignation — more market mischief. If anyone is on the brink it is Herr Waigel, who after a record eight years in office has become an electoral liability for his Bavarian Christian Social Union. Herr Tietmeyer is not a Eurosceptic out to wreck the euro and save his back.

But he will almost certainly be the last Buba chief in history. As such he is both weak — almost a lame duck on many political issues — and influential. His Buba will put up with Herr Waigel's goldmanship on one condition: that the entry gate for euro is high and rimmed with barbed wire. The gold crisis has not wrecked the euro; rather it has increased the pressure for a small, intimate mark zone as the initial nucleus of the new currency.

France may moan about the coming exclusion of Club Med states and tears may flow into the Tiber, but that will be the true price of playing with Maingold.

Budget crisis splits Bonn coalition

From Roger Boyes in Bonn

THE German Government, racked by the effort to plug its leaking budget and meet European economic and monetary union targets, showed signs of serious strain last night as Bonn's power brokers met in Helmut Kohl's office to find a way out of the financial crisis.

The Chancellor's coalition of Christian Democrats, the Bavarian Christian Social Union and the Free Democrats has to find a way of patching up the budget — hit by a huge shortfall in tax revenues — by the end of this month. The revaluation of the Bundesbank gold reserves, deeply controversial, cannot be used for this purpose. So the Government is stuck with three unpalatable options: to raise taxes, cut back the welfare state even further, or borrow more money.

The prospect of increasing petrol and value-added tax has prompted the Free Democrats to threaten to desert the Kohl Government. "The CDU will have to look for another coalition partner for a decision like this," Paul Friedhoff, Free Democrat economic spokesman, said yesterday. Michael Glos, head of the Bavarian CSU parliamentary party, sneered: "I have stopped believing in Free Democratic suicide notes. It is like a carp threatening to throw itself on land."

That exchange captured something of the sour atmosphere within the Government as politicians scramble for a solution. But the Free Democratic readiness to torpedo the Kohl Government should not be underestimated: if they are to establish their separate credentials before an election, then a principled stand against tax increases would be to their benefit.

Further welfare cuts would be opposed by the Social Democrats, who can hold up most financial initiatives because of their control of the upper house of parliament, the Bundesrat. New borrowing would push Germany well outside the Maastricht criteria on public finances. A possible shortcut out of the crisis — selling shares in Deutsche Telekom — has been blocked by the Telekom chief.

> ‘I have stopped believing in Free Democratic suicide notes. It is like a carp threatening to throw itself on land’

The confusion in the German political class has been compounded by new pressure to postpone the European economic and monetary union. A report in *Der Spiegel* to be published today suggested that even Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank president, favours postponement of the euro.

"Wouldn't it be a possibility, together with France, to agree to a delay in the start of the euro?" Herr Tietmeyer was quoted as saying. The Bank took the unusual step of issuing a denial. Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, chipped in with a rebuttal of other rumours that France and Germany were preparing an EMU delay strategy. "It does not make sense to discuss a delay in currency union," said Herr Waigel, who emphasised that postponement would have to be agreed by the European Union's Council of Ministers.

Until recently Herr Kohl has been able to assume that he has broad cross-party support for the euro. Yet an opinion survey of Social Democrats released by *Der Spiegel* showed yesterday that 78 per cent of party members favour a postponement of the euro.

Given the logjam in legislation and the bewilderment in Bonn, there was some sympathy in Germany yesterday for those calling for early new elections. "The economic and finance policies of the Kohl Government have failed. The coalition is so split it is not capable of acting. It would be good if it cleared the path for fresh elections," Oskar Lafontaine, the Social Democrat Party leader, said.

JÜRGEN SCHWARZ / REUTER

Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, who denied yesterday that Bonn and Paris were preparing an EMU delay strategy

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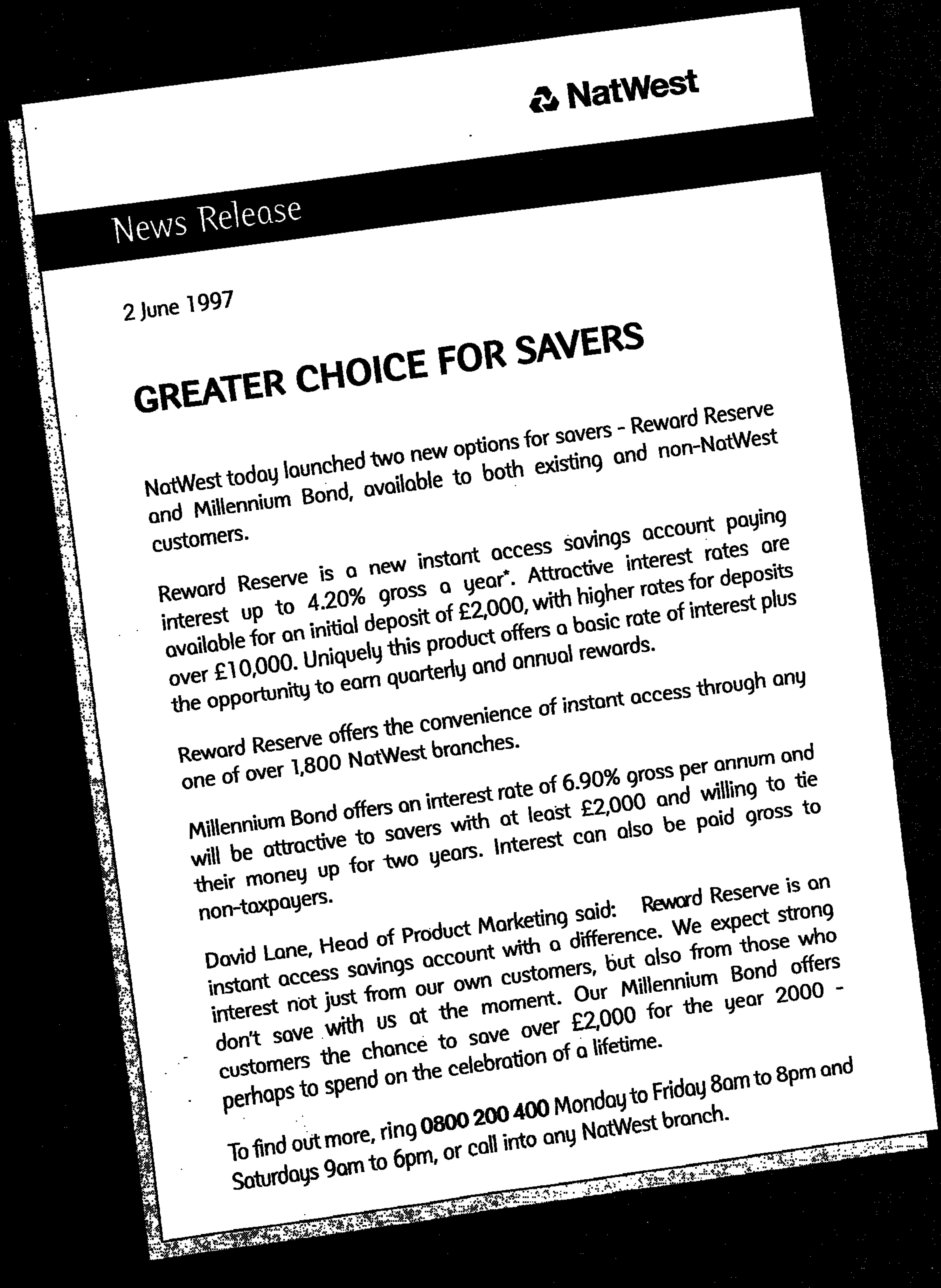

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Guerrillas from Sierra Leone bush fall out with army allies to oppose peace deal

Britain's envoy in Freetown urges rebels to end coup

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

PETER PENFOLD, the phlegmatic British High Commissioner in Freetown, Sierra Leone, was among a group of diplomats who yesterday were playing key roles in trying to return the West African state *to civilian rule after last Sunday's military coup by Sandhurst-trained Major Johnny* Paul Koromah.

Discussions between Mr Penfold and Major Koromah had already taken place at the High Commission in Freetown to ensure the safe evacuation of hundreds of Britons from the country.

Yesterday Mr Penfold *and* other foreign *diplomats* were *pushing hard to persuade* Major Koromah to hand the country back to civilian administration. The rebel leader was also warned by the commanders of the West African peacekeeping force in Sierra Leone, consisting of *troops* from Nigeria, Ghana and *Guinea, that he and his* soldiers would be forcibly removed if they did not stand down.

A Sierra Leonean politician who participated in the talks said a formal announcement was expected *after a meeting* at Mr Penfold's residence, to be attended by Major Koromah, which could lead to the return of Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, the deposed President. He escaped to Guinea after the coup.

However, diplomats gave a *warning that a settlement was* not being supported by another rebel group. The Revolutionary United Front (RUF), which has been fighting a bush war since 1991 and had joined Major Koromah, *remains opposed to any* deal. RUF leaders have not been part of the talks.

The settlement under discussion would involve the *Nigerian-led peacekeeping* force being deployed to secure key points and keeping order in the capital.

However, the presence of 5,000 RUF rebels in Freetown and their continued resistance *to a deal has already led to* serious rifts between its com*manders and the coup leaders*. Sierra Leonean sources said two people had been *killed in* gunfights between RUF rebels and soldiers at Major Koromah's headquarters on a Freetown beachfront.

The proposed settlement is based on what the internation*al community had been* demanding since the junior officers deposed President *Kabbah a week ago, including* the return of the President and *the handover of power by the* coup leaders.

One diplomatic source said the Cabinet would also be reshuffled to reflect some of *the grievances of the coup* leaders, who had accused the *President of failing to consolidate* a peace deal with the RUF *and of causing tension* between ethnic groups.

As if to underline that a settlement was not a foregone conclusion, Major Koromah last night announced the setting up of an Armed Forces Revolutionary Council with himself as chairman and *Foday Sankoh, the RUF leader*, as vice-chairman.

Diplomats negotiating with the coup leader played down the announcement carried on *state radio, saying they still* expected a deal to be signed.

The 20-member council consisted of three other members *of the RUF, three brigadiers*, four colonels and several civil*ians, including the* attorney-general. The statement said a Cabinet would be announced later.

Yesterday Mr Penfold, who *has four staff with him at the* High Commission where they *have taken temporary refuge* since the coup, described Freetown as "relatively quiet but very tense".

He said he and his staff, *including Colin Glass, 42, his* deputy, Dai Harris, 37, the *consular management officer*, and Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Gale, the defence attaché normally based in Nigeria, had completed the safe withdrawal of about 1,000 British-passport holders and 400 *other Commonwealth and* European citizens. They left by commercial aircraft and on American and French vessels.

Speaking by telephone, Mr Penfold said: "There is only a hard core of Britons left who want to stay. There are a lot of troops *around and there is a* great deal of apprehension about what is going to happen. But we're in good heart."

Mr Penfold and his staff have been living in the office and sleeping on the floor *because of the risks of leaving* the large British compound. They had enough food, he said.

Yesterday heavily armed rebel soldiers maintained their *reign of terror* over the capital, manning roadblocks *and patrolling the streets*.

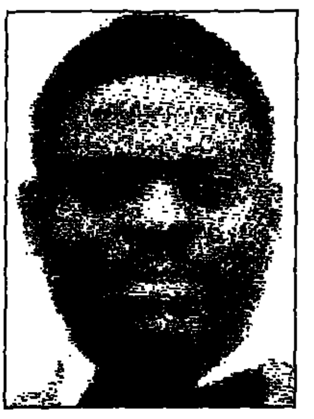
Helicopters from US warships which airlifted about 900 foreigners on Friday returned to pick up more early yesterday. Britain chartered a DC10 to fly 200 evacuated *Britons from the Guinean* capital, Conakry, to Stansted airport.

One group of Europeans arrived in Italy yesterday from Guinea. Joe Dogherty from Bath *said: "Some of the rebels* shot at the door of my room to *try and get in. Others had* their houses looted. We had problems getting food, all the shops were closed or burned. There were armed men in the *streets* and we all sought refuge where we could."

Britain is one of the few European and Commonwealth countries to be diplomatically represented in Sierra Leone and retains a strong influence in the *country*.

Mr Penfold's previous diplomatic post was Governor of the British Virgin Islands. Conscious of the *historical* importance of the event and wishing to show solidarity with a fellow Governor, he booked three years ago to be in *Hong Kong on June 30 for the* handover to China.

He said: "Now I'm *stuck* in Freetown and I don't know whether I'm going to make it."



COUP leader Major Johnny Paul Koromah was trained at Sandhurst in 1988-89. He was attached to 18 Platoon Arnhem Company. One *Sandhurst contemporary* said yesterday: "I remember he used to predict that one day he would play a significant role in his country." He once told him how he had escaped an attempt on his life *by army officers before coming to Sandhurst.* "He got wind of it and shot his platoon commander who was from a rival tribe," he said.

AFP

A US Marine carrying a child through Freetown yesterday as the operation continued to evacuate foreigners wishing to leave the capital of Sierra Leone in the aftermath of last week's coup by junior military officers

Clinton will not make apology in Jones case

By Tom Rhodes

PRESIDENT Clinton will *not apologise in the sexual* harassment suit brought by Paula Jones and is prepared to defend himself in court if necessary, his personal lawyer said yesterday.

Bob Bennett said that Mr *Clinton categorically denied* the claim by Mrs Jones, a former Arkansas state employee, that he had made a sexual advances to her in a hotel *room at Little Rock in* 1991. "There will be no apology and no admission of misconduct," he said.

"If *Paula Jones insists* on having her day in court and her trial, and she really wants to put her reputation at issue as we hear, we are prepared to do it."

Mr Bennett, who said he *had been given strict orders* by the President the previous night, added that Mr Clinton was not averse to an out-of-court *settlement* involving the *payment* of Mrs Jones's legal fees and a donation to a charity of her choice. "But we are not going to line her *pockets or her lawyers' pockets*," Mr Bennett said. "This is about money, it's always been about money."

Her lawyers said that their client did not want *to profit* from the case but they are *recommending* she seek some financial compensation. Any settlement, they said, must include an apology, an affirmation that her account of the incident is true and a statement that she did nothing *wrong* in the hotel.

Mrs Jones is seeking *$700,000 (£425,000)* in damages for defamation and violation of her civil rights. In an interview with *Newsweek* published today she said she was not expecting Mr Clinton to admit that he had *exposed himself but wanted* him to concede that he ordered a state trooper to "come and get me and bring me up to that room".

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Thai

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Clinton will not make apology in Jones case

Passive smoker sues US tobacco giants for $5bn

From Tunku Varadarajan in New York

A LANDMARK case in which a Mormon air stewardess is suing Philip Morris, makers of Marlboro cigarettes, for $5 billion (£3 billion) damages for injury suffered through passive smoking in flight cabins begins today in the Dade County Circuit Court, Florida.

Observers are calling the case, the first involving a passive smoker, the tobacco trial of the century.

The action is being taken by Norma Broin, 42, who discovered in 1989 that she had a particularly virulent form of lung cancer. A non-smoker by religion and inclination, she attributes her illness to the inhalation, over 13 years of working on aircraft, of other people's smoke.

Joined to the suit against Philip Morris are RJR Nabisco, Loews, Lorillard, the Brooke Group Ltd, American Brands, The American Tobacco Group and the Liggett Group — a virtual "who's who" of the cigarette world. Mrs Broin's suit is a "class action" — she is claiming damages on behalf of some 60,000 non-smoking flight attendants who allegedly contracted lung diseases and other ailments from "second-hand smoke" on American commercial flights. The suit is the first such "class action" against the country's powerful tobacco companies.

What makes this case really different from the vast body of ongoing tobacco suits, however, is the fact that Mrs Broin and her co-suitors are suing as passive smokers.

If Mrs Broin wins, the industry can expect to be sued by thousands of others in America who, as non-smokers, claim to suffer from the ill-effects of passive smoking through no "fault" of their own.

Tobacco companies have, to date, tended to benefit in court *from a simple argument: if a* person smokes, he or she engages in an activity of their choice. The consequences, therefore, are for that person to bear.

John Coffee, a professor at the Columbia University Law School in New York, explained: "Smokers who buy a packet of cigarettes have been given warnings that make them aware of the risks. But there is no reason for the jury to agree that these flight attendants assented to whatever risks tobacco posed."

Stanley Rosenblatt, Mrs Broin's counsel, said: "The arguments that smokers accept the risk, which I have never bought myself, certainly don't apply to my plaintiff. She had no choice."

The Florida courtroom promises to turn into a major scientific battleground as the tobacco industry has consistently denied that passive smoking can be blamed for *illness.*

Yesterday Daniel Donahue, deputy general counsel for the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, insisted that "there is no scientific evidence that would support a jury's finding that environmental tobacco smoke in an airplane cabin causes any diseases".

Expert witnesses for the tobacco industry are expected to argue that ozone, background radiation and "non-tobacco cabin contaminants" were the true causes of Mrs Broin's sickness.

Furthermore, the industry is expected to reject the findings of recent medical studies which argue that passive smoking increases a person's risk of illness.

One such study, which Mrs Broin's lawyers could wave as a battle standard, was published only last month by researchers at Harvard University. After monitoring 32,000 non-smoking nurses over ten years it concluded that passive smoking doubles the risk of heart disease.

Weathermen change tack to Spanish Main

By Tunku Varadarajan

HURRICANES are now as likely to be male and Hispanic as female and Anglo-Saxon.

America's weather agencies have announced their names for the forthcoming season's hurricanes. The list reads like a celebration of ethnic as well as gender diversity.

The National Weather Service and the Central Pacific Hurricane Centre appear have already buried the time-honoured tradition of naming hurricanes only after women. The tradition, started by the US Navy in the Second World War, always faced the wrath of feminists, who argue that a phenomenon as destructive as the hurricane ought properly to be male.

Storms visiting the Atlantic this year will be called by such names as Bill, Danny, Fabian, Henri, Larry, Nicholas, Peter and Sam. Forthcoming Pacific hurricanes fare no better: Kevin, Olaf, Rick, Terry and Waldo.

But the Hispanic lobby has also blown fiercely on the subject and the "weather wallahs" have responded by reaching for their Spanish saints' list. Seafarers and islanders in the Caribbean can now look forward to hurricanes Ana, Isabel, Juan and Teresa. Those in the Pacific should brace themselves for Andrés, Blanca, Carlos, Dolores, Enrique, Felicia, Guillermo, Ignacio and Jimena.

HEIDI LEVINE / AP

Princess Aisha Bint Hussein, King Hussein's daughter and commander of the Jordanian Army women's corps, inspects an Israeli military guard yesterday. She also had talks with Yitzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister

West Bank land sale killings rise

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

THE gangland-style killings of Palestinians selling land to Jews escalated yesterday when a third body was found dumped in the West Bank, and Israeli police rescued a fourth prospective victim as he was about to be abducted by Palestinian agents.

The three murders came after the Palestinian Authority, led by Yassir Arafat, imposed the death penalty on Arabs selling property to Jews.

As tensions over the land issue rose on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian divide yesterday, a new group calling itself "The Guardians of the Holy Lands" claimed responsibility for all three executions. Israeli and Western intelligence experts believe the group to be a front for Mr Arafat's security services.

Fears of more rough justice being meted out were raised when Freih Abu Medein, the Justice Minister, announced that he had names of 200 land dealers sentenced to death in absentia by Jordan. Some Palestinians claimed the shadowy death squads may now try and carry out the sentences, which Jordan never attempted to administer.

Mr Abu Medein also said that at least 18 Arabs had so far been detained for questioning about land sales. Human rights activists believe some may be victims of torture in Palestinian jails where 14 people have died since the 1993 peace accord gave birth to the Palestinian Authority.

Khader Shkeirat, a prominent Palestinian human rights lawyer, appealed yesterday for the end of the death penalty. He said: "If there is any suspicion that someone sold land to the Israelis, he should be tried in an open court."

But for many Palestinians, locked in a bitter battle with Israel over establishing a state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and parts of Jerusalem, those who sell land to Jews in these areas are condemned as traitors to the national cause. The victim murdered on Saturday near Ramallah was Mahmoud Ali Jamhour, 34.

Referring to the killing, Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, said: "The murder was carried out with the conspicuous encouragement of top Palestinian Authority officials, which raises a big question mark concerning their intention to reach a peace agreement."

Israeli police said that after the discovery of Jamhour's body they prevented the kidnapping of another suspect who had been bundled into a car by men connected to the Palestinian security.

Musician offends Jews

Jerusalem: A musician with the Berlin Opera, presently performing in Israel, was sent home in disgrace yesterday to face the sack after signing a hotel drinks bill "Adolf Hitler" (Christopher Walker writes). The incident provoked a diplomatic row, prompting apologies by the German Embassy and the Berlin Opera and protests by Holocaust survivors. When asked by hotel staff to explain his action, the 40-year-old musician said: "Adolf Hitler will pay you." He later claimed he was drunk.

Pope goes home to 'troubled' Poland

By Roger Boyes

POPE John Paul II, stooped and shaking from age and illness, returned to Poland at the weekend and spoke of his concern about the "painful problems and tensions" in his homeland.

The 11-day pilgrimage, launched in Wroclaw in southwest Poland, is turning out to be a deeply emotional trip as the hundreds of thousands of Polish believers crowding streets and churches sense that this might be the 77-year-old Pope's last visit.

His first pilgrimage to Poland was in 1979 and it released the energy that spawned the Solidarity movement a year later. Now, clearly marked by Parkinson's disease and moving at a shuffling pace, he seemed to be saying farewell.

"Every time I return home, I am deeply touched ... every return to Poland *is like a return under the* roof of the parental home, where every object reminds me of what is closest and dearest," he said.

But the pilgrimage also has a political edge. Poland is modernising and the Catholic Church, unsure how to react, is deeply divided. The traditional villain, Communism, has been defeated yet its shadow continues to haunt Poland's bishops.

Should the Church defend its terrain, reject European and Nato membership (on the grounds that Western consumerism saps national morale) or should it adapt to changing times and find a new evangelical mission in Europe? The Pope yesterday warned the crowd of the dangers of a society "permeated by ideas of democracy inspired by liberal ideology".

Photograph, page 24

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Pakistan stability threatened by rout of Taleban

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN ISLAMABAD

TALEBAN's rout from northern Afghanistan — it has retreated 120 miles south in six days — *marks the* collapse of an elaborate regional gameplan by Pakistan. The central *pillar of Islamabad's foreign* policy is in ruins.

This is potentially disastrous for an unstable country that tried to manipulate the creation of a friendly neighbouring government to stabilise the region and realise an old dream — winning access to Central Asia's trading opportunities and natural resources.

Instead it has made powerful enemies and gained nothing. It blundered last week *into premature recognition of* Taleban as the government of Afghanistan, convinced it was days away from overrunning the north and completing its two-and-a-half year conquest of the country.

Islamabad's mood was almost smug: a Pakistan-backed regime in Afghanistan would have given Islamabad immense regional authority and vindicated its clandestine support of the Taleban militia, a largely Pashtun student army with an extremist religious agenda. It may have been a Pakistani creation: it certainly had Islamabad's wholehearted support.

TAJIKISTAN
UZBEKISTAN
Mazar-i-Sharif
INDIA
AFGHANISTAN
IRAN
PAKISTAN
100 miles

Gohar Ayub Khan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister, hastily summoned a press conference *to announce recognition* of Taleban. His mood was exuberant, based on reports *from ISI*, Pakistan's intelligence agency, that Taleban's plain white flag was about to be run up in all but about 10 per cent of the country. He left *no doubt that* Pakistan favoured a Taleban victory.

"They are in effective control of most of *Afghanistan*," *he* said. "Probably in the next few days they will conquer all of Afghanistan." Days later, when that assessment proved embarrassingly wrong, the *Foreign Ministry issued a* brief, vague statement declaring: "Our policy is one of strict non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan." It was a *striking change of tune.*

The myth of Taleban's invincibility exploded in a night of street fighting in the northern capital city of Mazar-i-Sharif, when the "holy warriors", as they call themselves, were slaughtered by the northern forces of General Abdul Malik, an Uzbek. Like Russia and Britain before it, Pakistan has learnt that meddling in Afghanistan can mean humiliation and, potentially, disaster.

The entire northern third of the country is hostile to Islamabad, and the more the northern *forces continue their* advance into Taleban-controlled territory, the greater will be the destabilising consequences for Pakistan, already fragile and vulnerable from guns, drugs, corruption, ethnic killings and religious conflict. *It is now trapped by a* redundant foreign policy under which it recognises a *nonexistent government.*

Taleban, frustrated in its attempt to rule all of Afghanistan, *could redirect its* energies towards the old dream of creating a homeland, Pash*tunistan, taking in Pashtun* tribal areas in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan. *The Afghan northern forces* will do what they can to destabilise Pakistan to avenge *its support of Taleban.*

Pakistan's dream of reaching the oil and natural gas *reserves of Central Asia is* dead. A gas pipeline from Turkmenistan to Pakistan *would bring cheap*, badly needed energy, but its construction requires peace — for *which Taleban was created*, probably with direct Pakistani support. Now the only certain*ty is that war will continue.*

Saudi Arabia also recognised Taleban last week, lend*ing credibility to suspicions* that it, too, supported the Islamic army. Delta Oil of Saudi Arabia was to have been part of a consortium to build gas and oil pipelines *from Turkmenistan through* Afghanistan and into Pakistan, but a senior company *official said recently*: "It will never happen. I do not see any chance of peace."

Islamic leaders seek talks with warlord

FROM REUTER IN ISLAMABAD

REINFORCEMENTS have been rushed to the front line by Taleban after it was driven *out of Mazar-i-Sharif, but it is* delaying launching an attack on the northern city while it *seeks talks with General* Abdul Malik.

General Malik, an ethnic *Uzbek leader, handed the* Islamic movement an easy victory in the north last week, *only to have his followers* snatch it away. Taleban considers its pact with the general *— he has not been heard from* since that confrontation — is still valid and is trying to *make contact with him.*

Muhammad Akhund, the Taleban Governor of the *southern city of Kandahar*, said at the weekend that General Malik had taken no *part in his followers'* revolt. Taleban sources say they suspect that the general, if he is *alive, is being held prisoner* by other Uzbek commanders.

Taleban has issued a state*ment reminding the Uzbek* commanders that Taleban leaders captured in Mazar-i-*Sharif were invited there for* talks and should not be harmed. On Friday, General *Humayun Fauzi*, an Uzbek commander, said that any attack on Mazar-i-Sharif *could have "dangerous"* consequences for the Taleban prisoners.

平反六四
跨越九七
平反六四
跨越九七

MAYA VIDON / EPA

Hong Kong marchers commemorate the 1989 crackdown in Tiananmen Square

Democrats march in Hong Kong

FROM CATHERINE FIELD
IN HONG KONG

MORE ***than 5,000 demon*****strators marched through Hong Kong yesterday at the** ***start of a four-day commemoration*** **of the failed 1989 pro-democracy campaign in** ***Beijing's Tiananmen Square*** **— more than double the number who took part last year.**

They braved searing summer heat to walk for more ***than two hours to the offices*** **of Xinhua, the news agency and China's unofficial em*****bassy.*** **Waving flags and chanting slogans calling for the release of China's best-*****known dissidents, the protest*****ers placed a gigantic portrait of the Goddess of Democracy —** ***the emblem of the 1989*** **protest movement — over Xinhua's entrance gates.**

Canada Right's leader confident of a comeback

FROM TOM RHODES IN LONDON, ONTARIO

THE confident leader of Canada's Conservatives offered a simple message to British Tories as his party tries to come back from the dead in elections today.

In the rainy setting of London, Ontario, a drab provincial city thousands of miles *from its namesake*, Jean Charest, the charismatic figurehead of the Progressive *Conservatives, said his British* counterparts should create a party more accountable to its *electorate. Mr Charest*, 38, has some experience of humiliation and can easily relate to the *crushing defeat of John Major* last month.

In 1993, his governing party was routed at the polls, leaving the then Deputy Prime Minister as one of only two Conservative members of parliament re-elected to the *House of Commons* in Ottawa. During the past three years he has travelled 300,000 miles, cajoling support in every quarter, restructuring the party and creating a *new policy platform.*

This would trim central government, lower the 10 per *cent unemployment rate and*, perhaps most importantly, attempt to exorcise past demons *that forced his mentor*, Brian Mulroney, to resign as Prime Minister before the last elec*tion. During a break in his* schedule, Mr Charest said the new Tory leadership in Brit*ain should follow the Canadi*an example. "I would tell them to build from the ground up, to *change the whole party*," *he* said. "I have spent my time travelling and asking Canadi*ans* what they want from Canada. The British Conservatives should do the same."

*Such advice may be prema*ture, however. Although Mr Charest is confident his tactics will pay dividends today and is expected to gain at least 12 seats required for official party *status*, he remains a victim of a country riven by regional divisions. The issue of national unity has proved as divisive for the Canadian Right as Europe was for Mr *Major.*

It has created growing support for the populist Reform *Party in the west and, despite* a poor campaign, given further ammunition to the Bloc Québecois, the French-speaking independence party in the province. *The Reform Party*, led by Preston Manning, 54, the son of a popular Alberta Premier and radio preacher, has challenged the political orthodoxy of appeasing Quebec. He has built a firm base *in the booming western prov*inces where many Canadians have lost patience with the *separatists' damaging* attempts to upset the federation.

The last referendum on *independence* for Quebec in 1995 produced the most embarrassing result for the *Liberal government of Jean* Chrétien, 63, and has continued to undermine the Canadian Prime Minister's credibility as a leader for the millennium. Loyalists maintained the federation by a bare 50.5 per cent of the vote.

> ❛The issue of national unity is as divisive for the Canadian Right as Europe was for Mr Major❜

Although not on the ballot today, Quebec has become a *shadow issue exploited* by Mr Manning. And most see today's election as a shrill pre*lude to another referendum* within two years.

Mr Manning has cam*paigned on a platform of* equal footing for all Canadians and no privileges for Quebec, a *province which maintains* special laws governing the use of French language and culture. *In an interview in Toronto*, he said it was time for Canada to be led by a politician who is *from outside Quebec.*

Mr Chrétien, Mr Charest, and Gilles Duceppe, leader of the Bloc Québecois, are all Quebeckers. "I think the challenge to national governments, and that *includes Tony Blair's* programme for Scottish devolution, is to strike a balance," *he said.* "I think our *shared* experience will be relevant everywhere. Whoever can work *out a* balance between the centre and the regions has something to offer the world."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Seoul riots over Kim's 'corruption'

Seoul: Students armed with iron pipes and petrol bombs *battled riot police in Seoul* yesterday in protests demanding the resignation of President Kim Young Sam.

As many as 10,000 students took to the streets over the *weekend. The worst student* violence in almost a year was sparked by Mr Kim's refusal *to bow to opposition demands* and reveal how much he spent on his 1992 election campaign. *Allegations of overspending* and corruption have led to the arrest of his son and close aides. *(Reuter)*

Danger toys

Cairo: Thousands of toys made from hospital waste, including syringes, were seized from an Alexandria factory. The owner faces one to three years in jail and a £2,150 to £5,500 fine. *(AFP)*

Deadly brew

Moscow: Eighteen people died over a three-day period from drinking vodka made *from methylated spirits in* Krasnoyarsk, Siberia. Seven died in hospital, the rest at *home or in the street. (Reuter)*

60 miners killed

Beijing: More than 60 miners were killed by an explosion in *Beilongfeng coalmine, about* 125 miles east of Shenyang, Liaoning's provincial capital. *Last year 9,974 miners died in* accidents. *(AFP)*

Widow attacked

Yonkers, New York: Betty Shabazz, the widow of Malcolm X, the assassinated black leader, suffered third-degree burns over 80 per cent of her body *in a suspicious* early-morning fire. *(AP)*

Tikhonov dies

Moscow: Nikolai Tikhonov, Soviet Prime *Minister* from 1980 to 1985, died of lung disease. He was 93. He was a close ally of the late Soviet leader Leunid Brezhnev. *(AP)*

Obituary, page 23

Buthelezi's overture spurs moves for deal with ANC

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA'S ruling Af*rican National Congress last* night welcomed a call by Mangosuthu Buthelezi for his *Inkatha Freedom Party* and the ANC to co-operate in a peace initiative in the troubled *province of KwaZulu/Natal.*

An ANC spokesmen hailed Chief Buthelezi's peace over*ture as a positive develop*ment, but played down speculation that the parties *might eventually unite*. Earlier, Chief Buthelezi had endorsed unity talks between the ANC *and Inkatha* in KwaZulu/Natal.

Chief Buthelezi's comments come *amid* peace efforts by Jacob Zuma, the chairman of *the ANC, and* Ben Ngubane, his Inkatha counterpart, which have seen a significant *thawing in relations*. The talks' immediate aim is to stop the conflict in KwaZulu/Natal *which has claimed more than* 14,000 lives since 1984. The initiative has brought a de*crease in violence.*

Sources close to the talks have said that co-operation agreements at local and, in due course, national levels could result in the ANC and *Inkatha, currently nominal* coalition partners, working together even after 1999, when *there will be no constitutional* requirement for them to do so. *Noting that the* two parties had moved closer on economic matters, Chief Buthelezi said *they could no longer dodge* other issues over which differences existed, such as federalism.

☐ **Nairobi:** Four of Kenya's leading opposition MPs were released from house arrest yesterday after a rally at which President Moi said *there would be no change to* the constitution before elections this year. Meanwhile, security forces battled looters in a renewed flare-up of the rioting that gripped Nairobi *on Saturday. (Reuter)*

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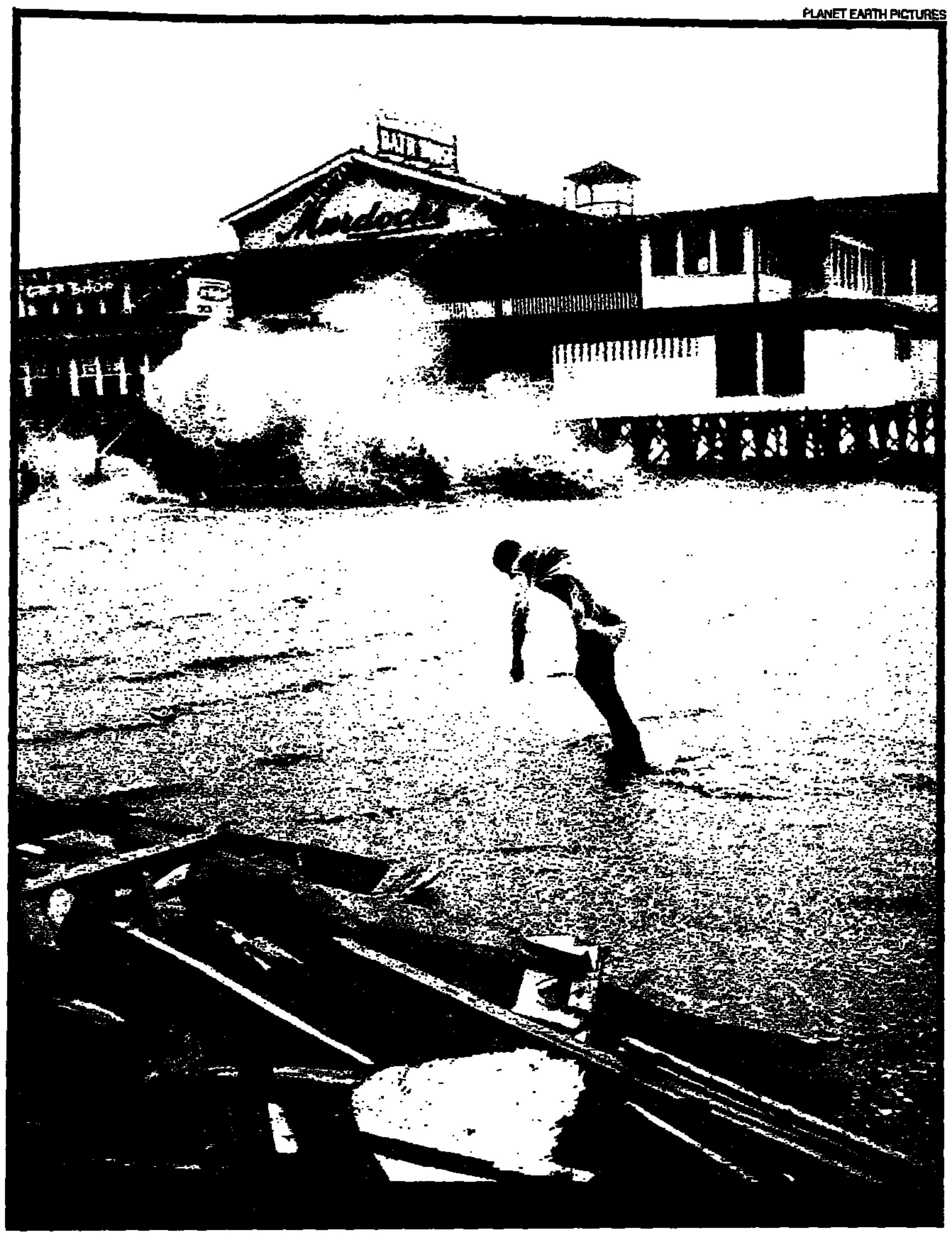
Ocean heat holds key to hurricane's secrets

The warmer the sea, the more frequent the hurricanes. **Anjana Ahuja** reports



PLANET EARTH PICTURES

Hurricane havoc in Texas: British scientists have linked the frequency of winds such as this to sea temperature

For hurricane-watchers, 1995 will go down as one of the most dramatic seasons since records began in 1886. There were 11 hurricanes and 19 tropical storms, figures surpassed only in 1933 and 1969. A fortnight ago, scientists from University College London published compelling statistical evidence that this exceptionally high tally was linked to record sea warming.

Why should we be interested? The 1997 hurricane season officially started yesterday. If the link is to be believed, the season is set to be a prolific one because the sea is already slightly warmer than average. Moreover, other research has suggested that higher sea temperatures whip up more powerful hurricanes, which take longer to die out. That means damage might extend beyond the North Atlantic hurricane hotspots of the Caribbean and the American East Coast. For example, Hurricane Lili survived its spin across the Caribbean last October to wind up on Britain's doorstep. It killed six people and wreaked enormous damage.

Hurricanes, also known as typhoons and cyclones, are whirling tropical storms that register the top score of 12 on the Beaufort scale of wind speed. Typical speeds inside the storm range between 20 and 50 metres per second.

The birth of a hurricane starts innocuously enough, with the evaporation of warm ocean waters. The waters need to be at least 27C. The evaporated water condenses into a cloud, and the condensation releases heat energy. This heat warms up parcels of air in the cloud, and the cloud rises.

In most cases, that is where the process stops. But if there is "spin" in the atmosphere, the cloud can start swirling. Thunderstorm activity is also critical — it can introduce a vortex. As the cloud swirls, the vortex acts as a focal point for a drop in pressure. Winds are sucked in, and feed the vortex. Meanwhile, the warm waters continue to evaporate, bulking out the cloud as it rotates. Another contributing factor is whether wind speed varies with atmospheric height, known as wind shear. If the shear is low, the spinning storm remains upright rather than toppling over. This allows the hurricane to gather energy, bulk and momentum almost without bounds.

During formation, the hurricane glides across the ocean. Typical speeds are 20-30kmh, although they can approach 70kmh. As soon as the storm crosses land, it starts to die.

Dr Mark Saunders and Dr Andrew Harris, from the Greig Fester Centre for Hazard Research at University College London, decided to examine the sea surface temperatures for those years with a high number of hurricanes. They focused on the Atlantic hurricane development region (10-20°N by 20-60°W). This is the birthplace of the hurricanes that hit the Caribbean and America. The four worst hurricanes to hit the area in 1995 — Erin, Luis, Marilyn and Opal — resulted in an insurance payout of $7 billion.

In their paper in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*, they concluded that sea surface temperature is the dominant influence on the frequency of hurricanes. The average sea surface temperature for that area is 27.5C, and in 1995 the temperature rose by 0.7C, the highest ever increase. "It takes an enormous amount of energy to get that sort of rise," Dr Saunders says.

Two top hurricane scientists, Dr Bill Gray and Dr Chris Landsea, of the United States Hurricane Research Division in Miami, have used the British research in their annual hurricane forecast, due out on Thursday. "It's a very good piece of work," says Dr Landsea. "It emphasises a factor that we've neglected in the past." There is one drawback — nobody has come up with a satisfactory physical explanation for the connection between sea warming and the number of hurricanes.

However, the authors, whose research was funded by the Natural Environmental Research Council, have suggested that it involves a strange atmospheric phenomenon known as the temperature inversion layer. As a rule, temperature drops with height. But at about one to two kilometres above the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, this rule reverses. The temperature starts rising again. As with so much in hurricane research, the origin of the temperature inversion layer is unknown.

Dr Saunders says: "When clouds reach the temperature inversion layer, the sudden higher temperatures cause them to evaporate. That means hurricanes are less likely to form.

"We suggest that when the sea surface temperature is higher, the energy released as the cloud condenses is greater. This heat somehow breaks down the temperature inversion layer. With the layer gone, the clouds are more likely to hang around. Consequently, there is more chance of a hurricane developing."

Meanwhile, Dr Landsea, in the middle of preparing the season's hurricane forecast, is keeping an eye on the sea temperature. "So far, the waters are fairly warm, which could boost the number of storms and hurricanes," he says. "We have to watch for other factors, too, such as the monsoon in Africa, which might push the numbers up, and the El Niño current in the Pacific, which might keep the numbers down."

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☐ Low-level nuclear exposure may be beneficial

Healthy radiation

SCIENCE BRIEFING

◆

Nigel Hawkes

PEOPLE have begun to say the unsayable: that radiation in small doses may be good for us. If true, it would overturn decades of well-intentioned advice, save huge amounts of money for industries that handle radioactive material, and ease the worries of people who live in homes exposed to radon gas.

The issue has been given new life as a result of studies of atom bomb survivors. These show that people who were far enough from the blast to have received only a low dose of radiation actually outlive those who were not exposed to radiation at all.

Similar results have come from other studies, as John Graham, a former president of the American Nuclear Society, summarised in a speech to a London meeting of the Uranium Institute last year. Mr Graham said that there was now "reasonable to good" evidence that low-level radiation was beneficial.

Studies of participants in nuclear weapons tests in the early years of the Cold War, he said, had shown no statistically significant increases in cancer.

Similar studies made at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore of tens of thousands of US Navy shipyard workers exposed to radiation in the 1960s and 1970s had similarly shown no ill-effects. The workers exposed to radiation had suffered fewer cancers than non-exposed workers.

Studies of populations exposed to different background radiation levels have backed the claims. One study, in China, compared 74,000 people who lived in an area with radiation levels three to four times higher than normal with 77,000 people who lived with a normal background level. Cancer rates were lower in the more highly exposed group. Similar findings have been reported from Kerala in India, from Brazil, and in America.

These studies may all be anomalies, but the US National Academy of Sciences and the US National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements have been sufficiently interested to begin reviews.

Those who believe there is a threshold below which radiation is not damaging argue that man has evolved in a world bathed in low-level radiation from rocks and cosmic rays. Such radiation can certainly damage cells, but cell damage is an everyday event for which repair mechanisms exist.

The more enthusiastic debunkers of radiation, including Mr Graham, who is now the vice-president in charge of environment, safety and health for British Nuclear Fuels' US subsidiary, believe that repairing radiation-induced damage gives the system a boost, which actually improves its functioning. "People predisposed to cancer should be given radiation throughout their lives," he says. "I believe that one day radiation will become part of our daily exercise regime."

For the record, the National Radiological Protection Board remains resolutely unconverted.

Research into yeast boosts BSE theory

THE theory that diseases such as "mad cow" disease (BSE) and its human equivalent, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) are caused by proteins that refuse to fold into their correct shape has been given a boost by research into yeast.

A team led by Dr Susan Lundquist, of the University of Chicago, has identified a protein in yeast that strings itself together into long fibres rather like those found in the brains of BSE and CJD victims. What is more, the team reports in *Cell*, the protein can "pass on" its peculiar properties to other identical proteins without the involvement of any genetic material.

The prion proteins in BSE and CJD cause brain damage by folding themselves into an aberrant shape. One misfolded prion can cause others to fold in the same way, spreading the infection. Some scientists have found the theory hard to accept, but the fact that a similar process can be seen going on in an organism as simple as yeast "gives us a clear structural basis for understanding how these things behave in the cell", says Dr John Glover, a co-author of the study.

Nasa joins Japanese asteroid mission

THE Japanese Institute of Space and Astronautical Sciences has set itself a tough target: landing on an asteroid just one kilometre in diameter and bringing back samples for study. The mission, set for launch in January 2002, recently got a boost when Nasa agreed to build a rover vehicle that will be added to the payload.

The £65 million spacecraft will be aimed for Nereus, a near-Earth asteroid, and should take 20 months to get there. If all goes well, the rover will wander about on the surface, samples will be collected, and brought back to Earth for a landing in 2006.

Grabbing samples where there is insufficent gravity to dig or pick away at the surface will be tricky. The plan is to "splash" samples off the surface by firing projectiles at it, and then catching them in a funnel-like device. It may yield only one to five grams of material, but that should be enough to answer interesting questions about the make-up of asteroids. "It will be a world first," promises Dr Akira Fujiwara, the mission's chief scientist. "Asteroids are the fossils of the solar system."

THE TIMES

THE GREAT FORD GIVE-AWAY.

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CHANGING TIMES

The downside of downshifting

On day one of our series, **Grace Bradberry** reports on what really happens when you opt for the simple life

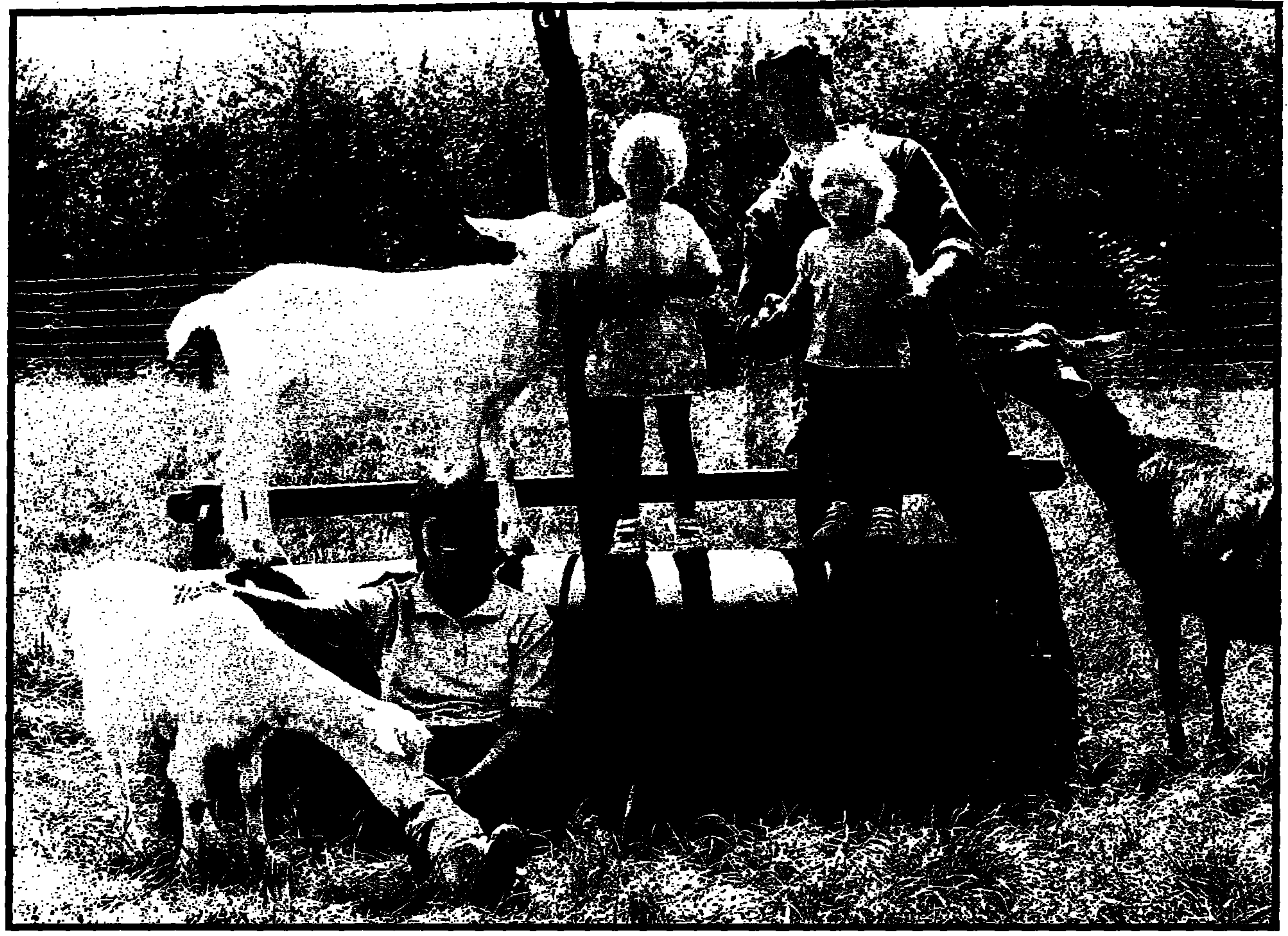
IT IS the great dream of the 1990s — escaping the treadmill of work for a rural idyll where life is simpler, and the overheads lower.

Downshifting, an American term that has caught on here, is now Britain's fastest-growing lifestyle trend. Last year, 6 per cent of the population took a voluntary cut in their incomes. According to the Henley Centre for Forecasting, which conducted this survey, another 6 per cent intend to do so this year.

The concept is certainly seductive. As the cost of ready-made meals, nannies, cleaners and travel to work mounts, the idea that we could take up less stressful work, cut out the extras and live better is appealing. It is also an ideal that fits with the 1990s *Zeitgeist*: conspicuous consumption has been dropped in favour of anti-materialism and environmentalism.

But is voluntary simplicity — another American term — all it's cracked up to be? Tonight, Channel 4 begins a two-part series, *The Good Life*, which examines how "exit strategies" work in practice. It becomes clear that there is a considerable downside to downshifting. One man wanted to shake off a persistent illness apparently caused by fatigue — but in the country he was stricken by another chronic condition. Another believed that taking on a small business in Wales would give him more time with his children. He now works an 18-hour day. Astonishingly, the people we spoke to insisted that their quality of life had improved — but there is no doubt that theirs are cautionary tales.

CHRIS HARRIS



Alan, his wife Karen, Alice and Katie: "We are now making money. I think things will get better for us, and I am convinced the children will be happier here. Alice loves it"

THE CHEESEMAKER'S TALE

LAST August Alan and Karen Reynolds sold their cottage in Surrey and moved to Carmarthenshire to make goat's cheese. Alan, 34, had worked for nine years in a large employment agency. His wife Karen, 40, had been made redundant by Shell. They have two daughters, Alice, now three, and Katie, two. Alan tells their story.

We had often talked about working together, but it wasn't until we had the children that we began making serious plans. I left the house at six to commute to Croydon, and didn't get home until seven. I began to wonder what the point was in having children if you never saw them. On top of that I had very little job satisfaction and felt constantly unsure of my job security. Karen, who'd always had a job, was bored — but we didn't want someone else looking after our children.

We sat down and said right, what can we do? We wanted a rural location with a business attached or the potential for one. We also wanted some land because we loved animals. Cows were out — too expensive — and goats seemed the only option. We hit on this area because we could afford it, and I wrote to the secretary of the Milk Herders Association asking some general questions. She replied swiftly, saying "I've got just the property". The owner of a cheese-making business was retiring because of ill-health. She had ME and arthritis.

The other options were to buy some holiday cottages, or a bed-and-breakfast place. But the cottage was in a beautiful setting, and we felt this would provide the most solid income. We looked over the accounts, did a few calculations and made an offer.

We were not completely unprepared. Karen spent six months helping someone with goats before we moved, and the previous owner gave us a weekend's crash course in cheesemaking.

We moved down in August, and the same afternoon we were milking. Within 18 hours of arriving we made cheese. That part was always my big worry, but apart from one batch that was a disaster through our own fault, and another two that were unsellable, it's gone well.

The goats were another matter. They are not daft animals and they sense our inexperience. Simple things that we'd watched the previous owner do became traumas. For instance, there was a set milking routine. The goats came into the milking-parlour, six at a time, stepped up onto the stand, their heads went down into the food trough, and we brought the yoke across. The goats played this game with us where one would keep her head up. Just as she put it down, another would pop up. We could be there for ages. Our tactic was to put tastier food in the trough — which cost more — but eventually they just got fed up.

We knew it would be hard, and that we would work seven days a week, but I didn't anticipate the hours being so long. Foolishly, as I now realise, we thought we would be inside having something to eat at eight in the evening. That's not the case at the moment. Sometimes it will be midnight and we're still working, and we think "we've only got five hours in bed". Not surprisingly, we both get very stressed. People say "take half an hour each day to be by yourselves", but which half hour? We can't find it.

Looking back, we should have done a business plan, but we didn't. We looked at the previous owners' accounts, but there were still intangibles. For one thing, she had only kidded half the herd each year, whereas this was our sole source of income so we needed to kid them all. That meant a large drop in milk production during the winter, which we are trying to make up for now. It also meant a lot of work.

> 'We should have done a business plan, but we didn't'

The first goat gave birth in February. She was two days early and we weren't there. It was a terrible start, one of the kids was deformed and had to be put down, then the other would not drink. All our reading had said "just coax them on, they'll find the teat". It took hours. After that it became easier. We had one breech birth but a farmer came along just as we were panicking. The most we had giving birth at one time was four. It was the middle of the night and we were racing from one goat to another.

We had 76 kids in all, and after four days each one had to be transferred to powdered milk — in other words you feed them yourselves. At one stage we were feeding 20 or 30, three times a day. It was mayhem, we were totally unprepared. You would persuade one to drink and the others would gather round, nudging. Then the kid would stop drinking. We became very wound-up, actually emotional about it.

We sold all but 14, which we kept as replacement stock. Our herd is actually pretty old, which we didn't realise when we bought it.

Thankfully, we are now making money. Our target was 40 cheeses a week, and we have exceeded that. We have also gained new customers. I think things will get better for us, and I am convinced the children will be happier here. Alice, the older one, loves it. After three months she recognised and named every goat we've got. Karen and I only know them by their udders. Alice knows their faces, too.

We feel guilty about not being able to take the girls swimming more often, or read to them, but the flipside is that they get the attention of two parents all day long.

I never wake unable to face another goat, and I never regret our decision. Even knowing what I now know I would still have come here — but I possibly would have looked at alternatives a bit harder.

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THE MANAGER'S TALE

MURRAY NASH, 38, was a senior manager at Currys, covering the London area, when he was struck down by chronic fatigue syndrome, becoming ill for a week each month. Seven years ago, he and his wife Helen, 37, decided to sell their house in Hertford and move to Powys in a Mercedes camper van in the hope that his health would improve. They have three children, Hazel, 14, Ricky, 11, and Darius, four. After spending three months travelling in Europe, Murray remained ill, so they moved into a small house in Wales. During that time, Murray began experiencing chronic back pain, which has never left him. They now live on his invalidity benefit. While he tries to cope with the pain, Helen has had her own crisis.

Simple life: Helen and Murray Nash live in a barn

My husband used to come to this part of Wales on holiday. Driving through Rhayader, the nearest town to us now, the sun would be shining and it would be beautiful. Then we went back to London and Murray started getting ill. The doctor said it was stress and we said "Right, let's get rid of our mortgage". It seemed so simple. We sold our house, bought a small one in Wales without a garden as a temporary base, and went travelling. The plan was to chill out, then build another house to live in permanently. But when we stopped travelling, we couldn't sell the house we had bought. Prices had dropped and we'd spent most of our money. Murray's back went, and I became pregnant. Suddenly, there were going to be five of us and the house wasn't big enough.

We managed to find this barn that we're living in. It was my husband's idea. If it wasn't for him, I don't think I'd be here. I took one look at what was really a shell and said "How on earth can you make that a home?"

He persuaded me, and we got two caravans and put them in the garden. I must have been completely mad. I had a month-old baby and was living in a mobile home with no sanitation. We stayed there for two years. After the first winter, my husband's back was really bad and I had to look after him as well as the children. Finally, I said "Let's get a council house. I can't stand it any longer." But we weren't eligible.

Murray's back was so bad and I thought we'd have to give up our barn. He was so depressed that I had to keep my chin up. Then one day I snapped. I had to take my son to the doctor because his jaw was aching and I arrived just as surgery had ended. The doctor said "How's Murray?" I screamed "Murray? Murray? Everyone wants to know how Murray is. What about me?" He said: "I've been waiting for this for three years." I didn't want to take pills so he suggested counselling. I did a year and it didn't work. I couldn't stop crying. Nothing was going to change. How would we ever afford to live in a house? But if we gave all this up, where would we go? Neither of us worked. We had children who needed coats and shoes. A friend said "Why don't you look on the tablets as a holiday". So I did for a while. I still go to group therapy.

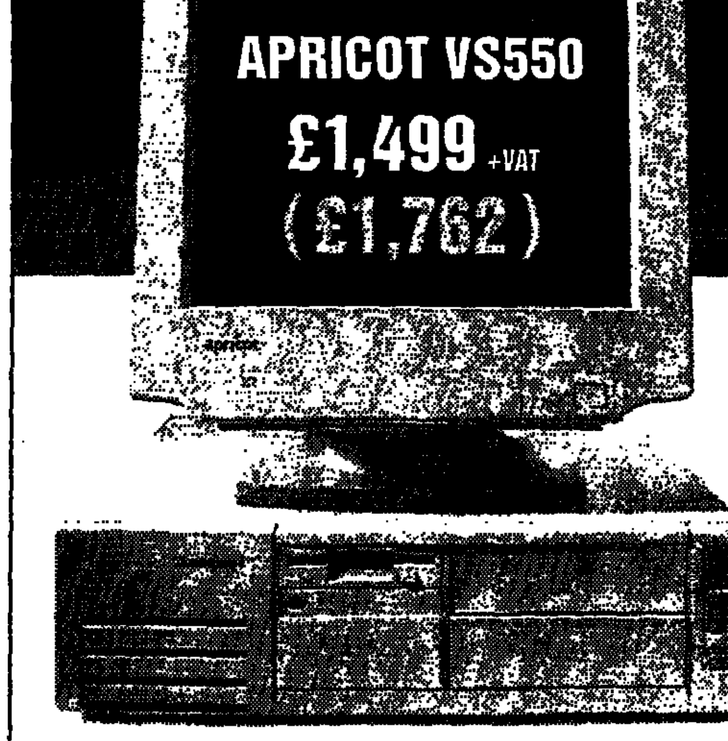
But it is wonderful up here. When we first moved here, we went through a phase of missing London. We'd be desperate to go back and then wonder why we had bothered. Then we would drive back to Wales and feel "Thank God, we're back".

I do miss some things — my friends, ordering takeaways. There's no anonymity here — everyone knows your business. But it's nice to walk down the road and have people wave and smile even if you don't know them.

Our life is certainly simple now. The microwave's gone, so has the dishwasher — we've had to sell everything.

- *The first part of* The Good Life *is on Channel 4 tonight at 9pm*

TOMORROW:
Running a country pub



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Brief encounter in Carnforth

The disgraced former Roman Catholic Bishop of Argyll has moved to Lancashire with his lover.

Interview by **Bill Frost**

Togetherness: but Roderick Wright's relationship with Kathy MacPhee has left him riddled with guilt and remorse

Stooped and broken like an ancient prizefighter, the big man blinking against the sunshine seems almost grateful to be confronted by an unwelcome caller. Perhaps any distraction is better than the guilty solitude that only a spoilt priest can experience.

Roderick Wright, the former Roman Catholic Bishop of Argyll and the Isles who fathered a child by one woman before running away with a divorced mother of three, is now living with her in their small, three-bedroom house on an estate in Carnforth, Lancashire.

It is the couple's second home together: they came here from their first "love nest" in Kendal, hoping to escape the notoriety that enveloped them after selling their story to the *News of the World*. He is unemployed, and fills the hours decorating, room by room.

"Now you are here you had better come inside . . . but how did you find out where *I was living?*" he asks.

The "shamed" bishop appears to have given up all pretence that the relationship which ended his career in the Church is *non-sexual*.

"There was a clash between celibacy and desire — I lost and, because of that, have caused suffering to so many, myself included."

He admits that he is unhappier and more ashamed of himself now than he was last September when public disclosure of his philandering sent shock waves through the Church.

"There are so many black days and there are a few slightly better ones," he volunteers. "But then, what should I expect when *I have let so many people down?*"

Since his spectacular fall from grace, Wright has been pursued by the demons *of his conscience.*

"The suffering I have caused will not leave me alone. Wouldn't you feel guilty if, as a Catholic bishop in your mid-50s, you had allowed this to happen?"

In a storyline twist worthy of Graham Greene, Wright and his lover, Kathy MacPhee, have chosen to make what they hope will be their permanent home in a market town made famous on film for the triumph of restraint over sexual desire. Carnforth station was, of course, the setting for *Brief Encounter*, the classic 1945 weepie starring Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson, who, despite their immediate passion for each other, decided that duty counted for more than love.

The message is not lost on Roderick Wright, a man with time on his hands and sin on his mind. Unemployed and palpably miserable, he plays constantly with a heavy gold crucifix at his neck.

"I keep thinking about the pain that I have caused. I keep wondering how this has happened," he says. As he speaks,

At first the bishop denied rumours

Wright paces the small living room and fingers a bandage on his ear. "*I have had* this infection for weeks and the antibiotics don't seem to be working. I suppose I am just run-down."

While Mrs MacPhee, 41, works as a supply nurse at a nearby hospital — staff have been told to deny that she is employed there — her lover decorates their new home. He enjoys painting and there is nothing else to do but wait for her return.

He obviously *dreads* inactivity in the quiet close where they have settled. The neighbours are friendly enough but his memories torture him. "I suppose everyone has turned against me, and I am not surprised," says Wright.

As though on a taped loop, *his* conversation returns again to pain, remorse and regret. The tiny front room has become a confessional.

"I *just feel I have let so many people* down," he says. "How could I ever have let this happen?"

Wright admits that he will never forgive himself, nor will his accusers. The former bishop is the first to agree that so many have been betrayed: his Church, his flock and at least one former lover. Joanna Whibley spent 15 years believing that he would abandon his vocation for family life and acknowledge their son Kevin. Last September she read how he had left Mother Church only to live with Mrs MacPhee. *Like so many others, she had* been duped. For while Wright was organising his new life, he had promised the mother of his child that he would visit them both to "honour a pledge". When Wright failed to show up, she was stunned.

"I did not totally expect him to come, but he said he would, and I had no reason to expect that he would lie so monumentally. In my heart I did not think he would, but in my head I thought it inconceivable to think that someone could lie."

Then, days later, *the story* broke. "It was a very painful business, having *my* stupidity held up for everybody to see. But in the end it is quite a small price to pay for the truth to be told.

"I want this whole sorry business to go away. Sometimes I look on it as a joke. Here is Roddy, this bishop, who has run away from reality, taking a nurse to look *after him in his frailty.*

"I have been stupid, but he is being stupid again and again and again. Whether it is wickedness or madness, I don't know," she said last Christmas.

There is small wonder at her fury: the remarks came as the press revealed how Mrs MacPhee's "sexy red knickers hung next to the bishop's large blue Y-fronts" on the washing line in the garden of their first home together in Kendal. And despite the couple's claims that the relationship was "non-sexual", neighbours spoke of "a double bed and giggles in the night".

There were other betrayals, too. Wright had been confronted by his superiors *three years before his affair with Mrs* MacPhee became public property and told Cardinal Thomas Winning, Scotland's most senior Catholic churchman, that there was no truth in such "scurrilous rumours" of philandering.

When his bishop fled to the Lake District, Winning declared: "I don't know what to believe any more." His deputy, the Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, was less equivocal.

"When one opens a can of worms, one just doesn't realise what is at the bottom of it," he said. "This Roddy Wright has had a weakness with regard to sexuality. To call *him a modern-day Judas would* be an accurate description. He has sold himself to the highest bidder."

In Oban, Father Sean MacAulay, parish priest for what was Wright's Cathedral, at first expressed compassion. "Roddy must have spent every day in great torture — I don't think he would have seen himself as living a lie," he said. Time soured his view, though. "I cannot express my disgust at hearing he has done this . . . it is all over now. Like Christ was betrayed by someone for 30 pieces of silver, perhaps we feel similarly betrayed."

The words ring still in Wright's ears as he nervously picks flecks of paint from his tracksuit bottoms. However, nothing said by his critics can be as bad as the verdict he passes on himself. "There was a story last month that I was on unemployment pay, plus £300 a month in housing benefit. It was all *nonsense* — I am *not* claiming anything. My partner is working and I live with her.

"Before we moved here from Kendal, there were high-speed chases as I took Kathleen to work at the hospital — anything for a photograph of us together. So, sure, one gets upset and paranoid."

The tape loop kicks in once more and Wright talks of his remorse: *mea maxima culpa.*

"I let people down and caused so much pain. Perhaps I will write a book one day to explain how and why this happened . . . but not yet, it is all too painful."

Wright has learnt his confession off by heart. However, he is as unwilling to forgive himself as his victims are to forgive him.

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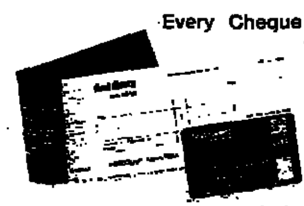

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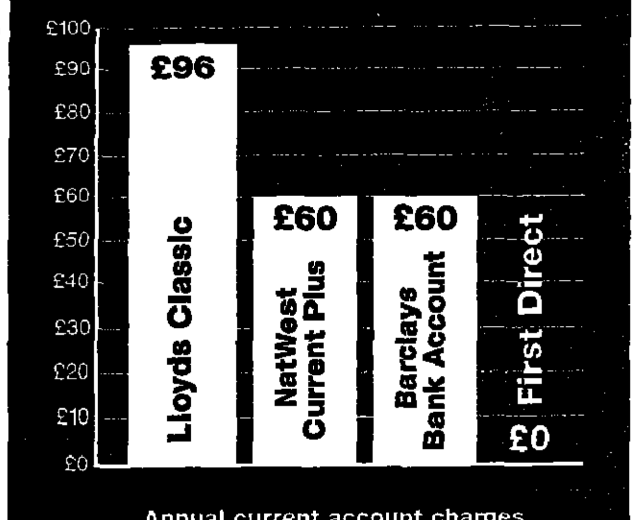

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ARTS
THE WEEK
AHEAD

VISUAL ART

Paintings and sculpture galore as the Royal Academy lifts the lid on the 229th edition of its *Summer Exhibition*

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow

MUSICAL

Jerry Lewis leads the Broadway production of the baseball musical *Damn Yankees* into the West End

OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

DANCE

Mark Morris brings his 1980s hit *L'Allegro* to the Coliseum in association with ENO

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

POP

After a six-year hiatus, the Pet Shop Boys are back, with a three-week residency at the Savoy Theatre

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

Why dialects are dying beyond our ken

MELVYN BRAGG

In 1969 a Mrs E.R. Fieldhouse *produced a survey on* local dialect. She questioned 248 schoolchildren in Barrow-in-Furness. As a follow-up in 1993, a Mr J.T. Franks did a similar survey. If you are *interested in the roots* of our language and what we nourish from the past, I suggest you tighten your seatbelts or come back to this column when you are reinforced by melancholy at the end of a day which has yet again failed the test.

Because the results make morose reading for those of us who *see the dialect as the soul-speak of* the old countryside, the register of a living past, the conduit of a fertile tradition.

In 1969 44 pupils knew of and *used the word swill (an oval basket* woven from oak laths). In 1993 only one pupil used or understood the word. Lonning (lane) — much easier to retain, you might think, *especially in the wild North* — scored 35 in 1969 and a desolate three in 1993. Slape (slippery), another word surely indomitable in a cold and icy climate, scored 50 *in 1969* and two in 1993.

Some other words did a little better. Lile (same as laal, meaning little or small) scored 50 in 1969 and 25 in 1993. Yam (home) scored 51 and 27; sneck (latch of a door or gate) 45 and 10.

But to come down from these rather modest heights of retention, there were many words quite well *known* in 1969 which figured *not* at all in the patois of the young in Barrow-in-Furness 24 years later. And there were howlers seemingly planted especially for the guard*ians of dialect — crack* (talk or conversation) meant to the young, yes, a drug; ken (to know) was a character in *Coronation Street*.

The above comes largely from William Rollinson's book *The Cumbrian Dictionary of Dialect, Tradition and Folklore. I* wrote a foreword to the book and count Bill Rollinson as a friend. Nevertheless, as well as providing pasture for hours of pleasant grazing for those who go Laking (one of Wordsworth's only known jokes was to pun laiking — playing — with *laking — touring the Lake* District), the book raises a number of crucial points.

Perhaps the most brutal is, who cares? Nobody much, it seems, *save a few embattled natives and a* strolling cast of interested tourists.

But does the culture care? The culture which is so — impressively — open to all sorts of ethnic *imports*, so keen to multiply our religious teaching and historical teaching and language teaching, and all credit to that. But what, one might say, about those of us who come from deeply seated cultures inside these islands, cultures *which riddle Shakespeare* and glory Burns and grit Lawrence and give weight and authority to Hardy and have risen again, miraculously, in the contemporary Glasgow street school?

Is the BBC *the culprit*, with its juggernaut standardisation for so much *of this century* — an accent I now *recognise around part* of my life and to some extent participate in, but one which I know for many reasons alienates millions? Or is it the remorseless colonisation of *Estuary English begun — one* might only a little fancifully argue — by Chaucer and chewing away ever since? Is it the voice of power and authority which demands a *clean bill of mouth* before entry is allowed in influential corridors? Or is it, more kindly, the inevitable result of the concentration through faster and faster communications of what has increasingly become a small, compact country?

In my schooldays we had two languages, as near as dammit. When I spoke accented dialect I was — *thankfully* — incomprehensible to my teachers, who reacted by caning this rough *beast until it* did not dare give voice in the classroom. I also learnt to talk comprehensible English, albeit (now there's another useful throwback) *equally* accented, as was happily pointed out to me by the young gentlemen of Oxford University *in* 1958. No *bones broken.*

In my first novel I represented the country people talking in the dialect which looks on the page *like muddy boots on* a *newly* fitted carpet. My editor, David Farrer, said that it was *no* doubt very true but it would not travel. I kept it and the book did travel, but his comment became an admonition and, looking back, I began to *heed it. Or perhaps it was that as* my life centred more and more on London, the sound and feeling of those old words began to fade.

But now the news comes from *Barrow-in-Furness that we are in* the death throes. Just as that part *of our countryside which is not* a factory has now become a national park — a wonderful simulacrum of nature — so dialect is now "taken up" all over the land by societies and publishers eager to revisit what is clearly our own rooted world, but also a world *fading fast.*

Why did we not fight harder for what is so profoundly ours? The itch to *find* a culprit will not go away. We have willingly stamped out the dialect and let it go in an act of complicit vandalism not dissimilar to that which destroyed our *monasteries*. We have pushed *out* our early spoken language as surely as precious traditions in Africa and the Amazon have been crushed. Perhaps there is no use for it in our sleek, screened, Internetted silent world. No need for babblement and blatin, no need for ahint and aslew, for douker and everly, for gawp and girt, kyne and lait, quindam and ryle, taggelt and throstle . . . I can't *help thinking* that we are much the poorer for it.

OPERA: The Royal Opera opens its Verdi Festival with a fine revival. Plus, a definitive Janáček staging in Glasgow

Like Christmas every day

DONALD COOPER

Kiri Te Kanawa as Amelia in Elijah Moshinsky's production: "There are things she does more eloquently than any other soprano of our time"

This year's Verdi Festival opened in grand style on Friday with Sir Georg Solti, the Royal Opera's music director *laureate, conducting* Elijah Moshinsky's staging of Verdi's final thoughts on *Simon Boccanegra* (1881): it will end in six weeks' time with a new production of *his* first, 1857 version. Hitherto the latter has been written off as little more than "interesting", but a concert performance in the first Verdi Festival two years ago *revealed* a work *of unexpected* consistency and power, and a full-scale staging was immediately planned. Such acts of rediscovery and re-evaluation *are part of what this noble* seven-year project is all about.

Simon Boccanegra
Covent Garden

In between come *Rigoletto*, the first version of *Macbeth* and concerts of *Oberto*, plus all manner of ancillary events from lectures by Pierluigi Petrobelli, dean of Verdi schol*arship, to sessions with rare* recordings and play-readings. There may be people in the world who don't believe that Verdi is among the greatest of all *opera composers* — *though* they will not be found at my dinner table — but for everyone else the next six weeks will be Christmas Day with the *repeat-button* firmly pressed.

No *need for re-evaluation* at Friday's *Boccanegra*, save to note *gratefully that this* revival was far better than the last, rather dismal showing two years ago, the dramatic focus *tighter, the lighting more careful* — and Michael Yeargan's beautiful Renaissance settings do rely on subtlety of light to make their effect.

Sir Georg proved to be the sprightliest of octogenarians, ever-attentive to matters of dynamic and detail, eyes and hands shooting clear instruc*tions to both pit and stage with* characteristic authority. Maybe the man's sheer energy led to his Soltianly pushing on a little too eagerly in the earlier *scenes — the father-daughter* recognition duet seemed a bit of a scramble — but the Council Chamber ensemble had authentic Verdian thrust and the *perfectly moulded* death scene could not have been more autumnal.

Many of the cast were the same as when the production was new in 1991, and Alexandru Agache was in *stunning form in the title role.* Tall and heavily built, he is perfect casting physically: you really believe this man is a pirate when he bursts on stage *in the Prologue. He manages* the ageing process with great *skill and — supported on two* sticks, racked with the pain of slow poison — seemed to shrink to half his size in the last act. His singing is equally *imposing and varied: the great* outburst in the Council Chamber stopped the heart with its sheer vocal power, and was balanced by the sweetest *pianissimo top* F *at the end of the* recognition duet.

As before, he found an ideal antagonist in the Fiesco of Roberto Scandiuzzi, whose *presence is equally imposing — his straight-backed carriage* properly patrician, his eyes flashing with righteous anger. Scandiuzzi's cavernous bass tone, through which every *word is crisply projected*, is just the job, and the final reconciliation of these two old enemies in the last act was profoundly stirring.

Kiri Te Kanawa returned as Amelia, a role long in her repertory and one of which she knows every nook and cranny. She may "manage" the voice *with more care than sometimes in the past, but there are* things she does, especially her soaring hymn to peace *in* the Council Chamber, more eloquently than any other sopra*no of our time.* Alan Opie was once more an Iago-scale Paolo, and while *ideally* a heavier tenor than Marcello Giordani is needed for Gabriele, once *past some early pitch prob*lems he didn't let the side down. A good opening evening.

RODNEY MILNES

Bright-eyed, bushy-tailed

With *Katya Kabanova* playing at Covent Garden, and *The Makropoulos Case* poised to open at Glyndebourne, Britain lacked only *The Cunning Little Vixen* to complete the triptych of operas which Janáček wrote in the last feverishly creative ten years of his life. Scottish Opera has provided the *missing panel* in a robust and earthy revival at the Theatre Royal of David Pountney's now well-nigh definitive production.

As a *dragonfly leaps* over a sleeping badger, as parasols bloom into spring, and as owls click their knitting needles high in the treetops, Rebecca *Evans makes her foxy Scottish* Opera debut, bushy of tail, and bright of eye and voice.

There may have been more seductive movers in the role — *indeed, Stuart Hopps's revival* and choreography as a whole has a disarmingly roughhewn quality about it — but there have been few Vixens in the *history of this* production to equal Evans in sheer vocal sensuousness. The Welsh so*prano's ripe and clear enunci*ation is delightfully tinted by many a native hue: Milk Wood seems not so very far from Moravia as she wakes *Mr Badger with a pert* "So 'e's found 'is tongue at last!"

Speech rhythms were, for Janáček, "windows into the soul of man" and, as they are *filtered into this score together* with the myriad sounds of nature lovingly transcribed and assimilated by the composer throughout his life, so *the listener is engaged at a* uniquely deep, often subconscious level. Janáček even notated the sound of silence itself; and he filled his journal *for 1922 with the sound of all* that lived, moved and had its being, "collecting suitable company for my Cunning *Little Vixen*".

The insect-like movement of bow on string can make the skin itch, just as the woodwind elegies make the heart ache. With the *Scottish Opera* Orchestra conducted by Martin Andre emphasising the physicality and the dance within the music, the score took on a bold, rather than a nervously finely-tuned, presence.

The Cunning Little Vixen
Glasgow

Ensemble on stage is, as yet, stronger than that in the pit. *Neill Archer's Fox and* Stephen Gadd's Poacher potently activate that moment of sudden rapture when their lovesongs collide. The Forester, *Janáček's bridge between the* animal and human worlds, finds David Barrell nicely raw *of edge* and bright of detail, providing an energetic foil for the plaintive Schoolmaster tenor of Peter Hoare, and for William McCue's venerable *and melancholy Parson.*

The young of all breeds are too numerous to mention; yet a loud croak of praise is especially due to Thomas *Dean's fearlessly projected* Frog. As he gives the cue for the Forester's final epiphany of nature's cycle, the *Vixen* (which plays tomorrow, *Thursday and Saturday* before moving to Newcastle and Edinburgh) seems a fitting herald of summer.

HILARY FINCH

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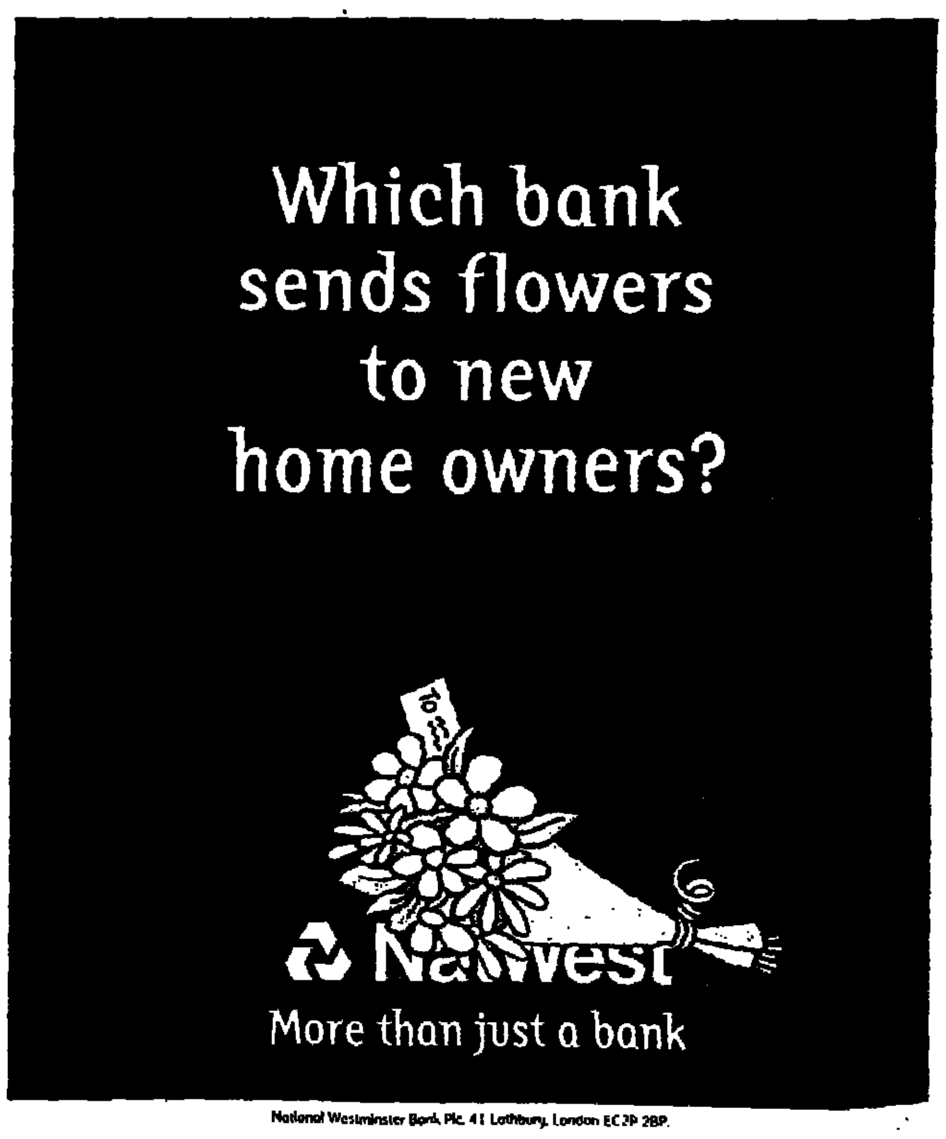

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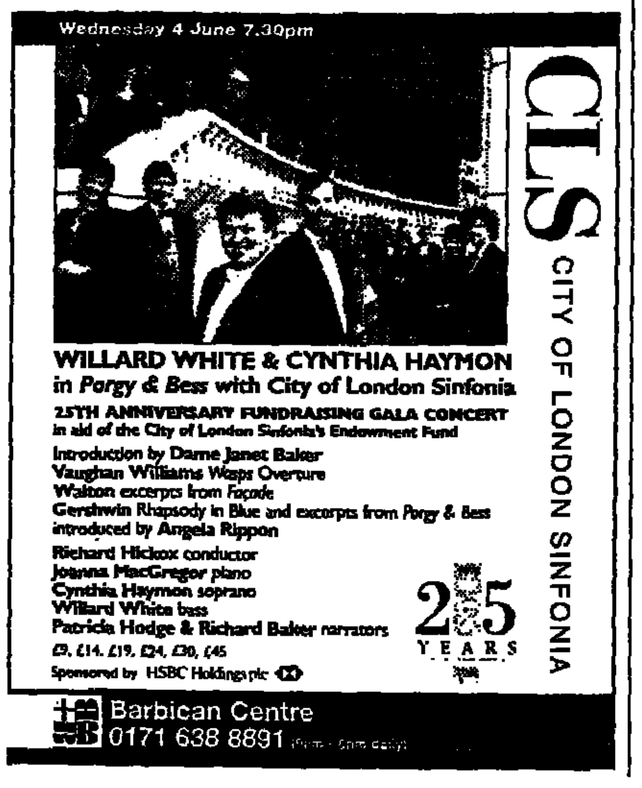

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■ THEATRE

A new staging of *The Winter's Tale* opens Shakespeare's reconstructed Globe on Bankside

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

■ OPERA

Paul Daniel conducts the first British performance of Korngold's *Violanta* for Opera North

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

■ FILM

French director Luc Besson makes his English-language debut with the futuristic epic *Fifth Element*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

■ MUSIC

The Spitalfields Festival presents the first London performance of a new work by Michael Berkeley

CONCERT: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Old sports and good ones

THEATRE: That vintage American baseball musical, *Damn Yankees*, is back in London. **Matt Wolf** meets the team

NOW ON
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OM 29 MAY

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Damn Yankees director Jack O'Brien with composer Richard Adler, 75, the only surviving member of the original offstage creative team

Broadway doesn't get much more quintessentially American than *Damn Yankees*, the 1955 musical that pits the now-defunct Washington Senators against the New York Yankees in an Eisenhower-era fable concerned in equal measure with baseball and *Faust*. Although British theatre is somewhat more accommodating to the latter legend than to talk of shortstops, fly balls and home runs, the Richard Adler-Jerry Ross-George Abbott musical has had a reasonably robust history on this side of the Atlantic.

Its London premiere played at the Coliseum for 258 performances in 1957, with the skating and dance star Belita paired with Bill Kerr in the roles of Lola and the Devil (originated by Gwen Verdon and Ray Walston). A classical dancer curiously cast in the lead, Belita was followed after three months by Elizabeth Seal, who had been discovered in the West End in Ross and Adler's previous collaboration, *The Pajama Game*, another show scheduled for imminent London revival. And not 18 months ago, London's enterprising Bridewell Theatre off Fleet Street mounted its own acclaimed small-scale production of *Damn Yankees*, which prompted talk of a West End transfer.

In fact, it is the recent Broadway touring production that the Adelphi Theatre is currently housing — a recast staging of the 1994 New York revival, at whose opening night co-creator Abbott made an emotional appearance, aged 106 (he died not long afterwards). Victor Garber launched the run as the devilish Applegate, the suave conjurer who transforms a middle-aged suburbanite into a youthful slugger, only to be replaced as the run continued by Jerry Lewis, making his Broadway debut. Now 71, Lewis is coming to London in the same Mephistophelean part, which means audiences can get a glimpse of the original "Nutty Professor" even as they hum along to *(You Gotta Have) Heart* and *Whatever Lola Wants (Lola Gets)*, the musical's best-known numbers.

"It was at the right time, the perfect time in my life. It's the best show I've ever seen in a theatre," says Lewis, explaining a commitment that will keep him with *Damn Yankees* up to the millennium: he hopes to close the production on Broadway on December 31, 1999. Before that a world tour is planned, incorporating Berlin, Toronto and Montreal, Australasia and, of course, Paris, where Lewis is revered.

But might this slice of vintage Americana not suffer the same critical sea change that has afflicted numerous New York exports of late, from *Sylvia*, *The Heidi Chronicles* and *Old Wicked Songs* through to the newest, *Master Class*? "I would have said 10 or 12 years ago that this would be a no-go whatsoever," says the director, Jack O'Brien, who was responsible for revising the book in order to shift some of the musical's Fifties attitudes into the Nineties. (He has also given the song *Two Lost Souls* to Lola and Applegate, so that the leads get an eleventh-hour duet.)

But now, says O'Brien, "I think TV and CNN in particular have changed all that. We know a lot about international sports now; we even get snooker, for crying out loud. Now that the world's gotten smaller, there's a lot more cognisance of what baseball is. More importantly, this isn't a musical about baseball. This is a musical with an affectionate poke at *Faust*, and I dare say Britain knows more about *Faust* than it cares to admit."

O'Brien started the production in 1993 at the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, where he has been artistic director since 1982: his next project there is *Othello*, with the Royal Shakespeare Company alumnus Richard Easton as Iago. "The idea that we're here in the West End four years later is such a bafflement to me. It's such a tribute to the show itself and to the whimsical nature of theatre.

"Who knew that this would become Jerry's vehicle? He was not at all what I wrote the piece for. I certainly wasn't thinking about an international clown. I was thinking about somebody outside of time and someone who was a satirist, and in an odd way, Jerry qualifies on both counts."

Casting a far longer glance back at the show is the co-composer Richard Adler, the lone member of the original offstage creative team who is still alive. "I never in ten million years would have thought this musical would have anything approaching this success, ever," says Adler, an enthusiastic 75-year-old, who called his autobiography *You Gotta Have Heart* after the first-act showstopper.

Adler admits to some scepticism when Abbott first proposed an adaptation of Douglass Wallop's novel, *The Year the Yankees Lost the Pennant*. "Nothing about baseball had ever worked before in the theatre, and I knew that jinx and didn't like it. But if Mr Abbott had said to me, 'Let's get to work on the *Scott Tissue Gazette*,' I would have done that. He was my great friend, my mentor, my guardian in a way."

Forty years on, the show's innocence is what endures, alongside an emphasis — now almost quaint — on the comic element of musical comedy. "I like to go to the theatre and have fun and laugh instead of wincing," says Adler, contrasting his show with this season's Broadway hit, *The Life*, "which is all about hookers and pimps; it's sleaze".

O'Brien places *Damn Yankees* among "those glorious light-hearted musicals of the Fifties that always work in the way that Shakespeare's golden comedies always work. This show was the calling card to a lot of careers of those of us who are out there now. It's not profound, but what it is is irresistible, and what better excuse for theatre could you have?"

● Damn Yankees *is in preview and opens on Wednesday at the Adelphi (0171-413 1777)*

LONDON CONCERTS

Fitting praise

Korngold Anniversary
Wigmore Hall

THE 100th anniversary of Erich Wolfgang Korngold's birth could not have come at a better time: Romantic, tonal harmony is back in, and film scores are now taken seriously as a genre. Korngold's reputation is riding higher than ever before, and as more of his works enter the repertoire, it becomes possible to make better informed judgments as to the quality of his oeuvre.

This centenary event introduced us to two chamber works not previously performed in this country. The Suite, Op 23, for two violins, cello and piano left hand was written for the one-armed Paul Wittgenstein. Opening with a formidable cadenza for the pianist that seems determined to compensate for any digital deficiency, the work continues in equally individualistic vein. If the first two movements conjure Korngold's Viennese background — the first in the coffee house, the second the ballroom — it is done in inimitable style. The Scherzo is a precipitate rush into grotesquerie.

Bengt Forsberg, seemingly the moving force behind this revelatory programme, delivered the piano part with aplomb, while Ulf Forsberg and Kjell Lysell (violins) with Mats Lidström (cello) generally triumphed over the music's textural idiosyncrasies.

They were joined by the violist Veronica von Steinäcker for the Piano Quintet in E Major, Op 15, which strives, like the Suite, against the medium itself. The piano part not merely aspires to concerto status, but emulates the full orchestra as well. Yet the hazy glissandi of the slow movement herald a passage of glorious lyrical inspiration, and it is otherworldly moments like this that signal the true genius of which Korngold was capable.

Bengt Forsberg is best known as Anne Sofie von Otter's accompanist, and he was joined by her for two groups of Korngold's songs, ranging from simple Brahmsian Lied through the painful separation of the *Lieder des Abschieds* to the almost Schoenbergian radicalism of *In meine innige Nacht*. Von Otter covered that range with consummate artistry and returned to sing, as an encore, *Marietta's Song* from *Die tote Stadt* in a ravishing arrangement by Forsberg himself.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Crushing vitality

LSO/Thielemann
Barbican

WITH *Elektra* still tingling in his baton, Christian Thielemann has Richard Strauss very much on his mind at the moment. So it was no surprise that in his concert with the London Symphony Orchestra the composer was almost stiflingly omnipresent.

The evening began with the double string orchestra version of the late *Metamorphosen*, a threnody for the postwar physical and spiritual destruction of German culture. The moment is focused in Strauss's own quotation, towards the end, of the halting rhythmic figure from the Funeral March of Beethoven's *Eroica Symphony*. And in Thielemann's performance the work moved relentlessly towards this point, superscribed by Strauss with the words "In memoriam".

Some of the strings' entries seemed to blur rather than clarify Strauss's varied polyphonic textures. And this tendency reappeared in the *Eroica* itself which followed after the interval. At first this promised to be a performance of some excitement. With cellos and basses banked up to left and centre of the stage, the low groan of the beginning of the Funeral March seemed to come from the innermost being of the orchestra. Forward movement seemed constantly dragged back so that Strauss's own anguished lament echoed and re-echoed once again.

But before long the thick, sustained textures created by Thielemann began to be as mannered and oppressive as the aggressively driven and finally lifeless finale. There is more life-affirming exuberance and less brute force in Beethoven's heroism than Mr Thielemann's philosophy seems to know or to care for.

HILARY FINCH

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A sheep in Wolf's clothing?

Timothy Garton Ash on the real face of a spymaster

What are we to make of Markus "Mischa" Wolf? Despite his recent conviction by a German court, the former East German spymaster may soon be visiting Britain to promote his already much-hyped memoirs, *Man Without a Face*. He is irresistible copy, of course. Billed as "the real-life Karla" — although John le Carré has always insisted that Wolf was not the model for any of his characters — the word "legendary" sticks to him like fluff to a nylon jacket.

He was called "the man without a face" because, until 1978, Western secret services did not have even a photograph of him. With the aid of his so-called "Romeo" spies, sent to seduce lonely secretaries in Bonn, he ran one of the most successful intelligence operations in postwar Europe. A fluent Russian-speaker, a gifted cook, good-looking, articulate: the gurgling newspaper profile just writes itself.

On the other side, unseen, never profiled, there are the people to whose fate the German court has now drawn to our attention: a 26-year-old secretary abducted to East Berlin, where the Stasi tried to "persuade" her to spy on her American employers; a Stasi officer and his girlfriend who, having defected to the West, were kidnapped back to the East and then imprisoned for many years; the Leipzig printworker who was imprisoned for 200 days while the Stasi tried to "persuade" him to help to frame Willy Brandt as a Nazi collaborator.

In all these cases, the court held Wolf to be directly responsible in the chain of command. On this dark side, too, are the ruined lives of agents and their life-partners which Wolf coolly recounts in his book and the Stasi's support for international terrorism, including the PLO and "Carlos". All this has led one of our leading academic specialists on intelligence matters, Christopher Andrew, to characterise him bluntly as a "thug".

I have spent a good part of the past few years dissecting the Stasi, starting from the strange experience of reading my own Stasi file, and I talked to Wolf in Berlin last year. I find that the reality is more complicated. Neither legendary superman nor simple thug, Wolf was the head of a very effective secret service. His memoirs provide further vivid evidence of the way that West Germany was penetrated from top to bottom. The intellectual son of a playwright, and brother of a leading film-director, Wolf also makes really interesting reflections on the historical context of Cold War spying — and particularly on why West Germans agreed to work for the East.

Charming, well-dressed, thoughtful, he is quite unlike all the other pot-bellied, narrow-minded, philistine Stasi officers whom I have tracked down to their gloomy bungalows. In this sense he is the Albert Speer of East Germany.

(This is not, let me say at once, to equate the evils of communist Germany with those of Nazi Germany.) Yet, like Speer, he still needs a Gitta Sereny to drag out of him the full acknowledgement of his responsibility, knowledge and guilt.

This still unacknowledged truth is not so much about what his foreign intelligence service got up to abroad. Rather, it is about the repressive system they very directly served. Again and again, he tries to suggest that the gentlemen of his service had little or nothing to do with the brutish players of the domestic Stasi. "They did their work, I did mine," he writes at one point. In fact, his foreign service was closely integrated with that vast apparatus of internal repression which made East Germany in, say, 1984, the closest we have so far come to the state of total surveillance imagined by George Orwell in *1984*.

Their offices were in the same scaled-off complex of the Ministry for State Security. They co-operated with the domestic spooks and thugs on countless cases. One of Wolf's former agents, a certain Knud Wollenberger, has become one of the most notorious examples of domestic betrayal in East Germany: he spied on his own wife from the moment they met. Wolf himself was a deputy to the minister, Erich Mielke, and worked with him for more than 30 years. They even shared a bedroom when they went to Moscow on offical business.

> His service was closely integrated with a vast apparatus of repression

Did Wolf ever seriously question the paranoid extension of the domestic security apparatus, to which, by the end, one in every 50 East Germans had some direct connection? Did he criticise what he delicately calls their "often harsh methods"? Not by his own account. Not by anyone else's. Indeed, two of his former senior officers describe him as reverential to authority.

Just because he was different — educated, sophisticated — he was the one who should have known better. And because he enjoyed protection at the highest level in Moscow he could have afforded to speak out behind closed doors. But instead, he obediently served, like all the rest. When his doubts finally grew, in the 1980s, he simply took early retirement, negotiating what the memoirs call a "separation package" which included a chauffeur-driven car and the nice flat overlooking the River Spree where he still lives. Only in 1989, when the risk of criticising was very low, did he restyle himself in a heroic self-image of intellectual dissent.

On the surface, he is so unlike all those other retired Stasi officers whom I talked to in their tawdry bungalows, nursing their small beers and grievances. Yet, underneath, deep down, he is so like them. Here is the great spymaster's last secret: he was a sheep in wolf's clothing.

Timothy Garton Ash's The File: A Personal History *will be published in early July by HarperCollins.*

Sympathy cannot shield the helmsman who steered his party into the iceberg like a Tory Titanic

Why Major cannot escape the blame

William Rees-Mogg

The Conservative leadership campaign lacks an essential preliminary: the Conservatives have not conducted an adequate post-mortem into their election defeat. If they have no idea why they lost, they are unlikely to choose the man, or the policies, to win in the future. Yet so far there has been only the most superficial discussion in the party of the causes of their worst defeat in more than 90 years: the *Titanic* has gone to the bottom of the ocean and the general inclination is to blame the iceberg.

There are understandable reasons for this. The Tories are still in a state of shock. After the much less severe defeat of 1945, it took something like 18 months for the party to pull itself together and become an effective Opposition in Parliament and in the country. In 1997, half the seats in Parliament have been lost, there are no Conservative Members left in Scotland, Wales, or most of the great cities, and the leader has announced his resignation and retired to watch cricket. The old order has been overthrown and no new order has yet come into being.

There is also a natural sympathy for John Major himself. The party still feels considerable loyalty and affection for him; it does not want to ask the obvious question: was the election defeat caused by his failures as leader? Even commentators like myself who were critical of John Major as Prime Minister have not wanted to be harsh to him in defeat. Nevertheless, the question is inescapable: the *Titanic* hit the iceberg; was the captain to blame? When William Hague made a guarded reference to the habitual "fudge" of the Major leadership, he was criticised as disloyal, not least by Matthew Parris in these columns. One cannot discuss the defeat rationally without considering John Major's leadership. If the Conservative Party finds that too painful, it cannot begin the process of discovering why it lost, and how to recover.

Despite the public silence, the party is discussing the causes of the disaster in private. There is a pro-Major view. It is that he was a good leader who was let down by quarrelsome and disloyal colleagues. He won against the tide in 1992; the blame for the defeat in 1997 should be placed on the members of his Cabinet and party who did not give him the loyalty the leader deserves. There is also the anti-Major view, expressed to me by one irritated Conservative supporter: "In my constituency we had a bad Member and a bad campaign; in the country we had a bad leader and a bad campaign."

There is also the view, which I think is well founded, that the defeat, if not its scale, was determined early in the last Parliament. In 1945 the most convincing analysis was that the Conservatives had been held responsible for the events of the 1930s, in particular high unemployment and the failure of the appeasement policy. In 1997, the Conservatives were blamed for events which occurred between the middle of 1990 and the end of 1992. That was the crucial period which made defeat in 1997 probable, and the landslide very possible. To start with, many Tories resented the dismissal of Margaret Thatcher, but the disillusionment went much farther than that.

About nine months before the election I met one of the Conservative planners who had access to all their private polls and contact groups. He was not particularly optimistic, and used a phrase which stuck in my memory. "It depends on whether people have got over their anger." I think the public did to some extent get over their anger, but that it was converted into a sour distaste for the Tory Government. That was accentuated by the broader feeling that it was time for a change.

What caused the original anger which so alienated the electorate? It was the handling of the recession of the early 1990s, a recession which was particularly painful for Conservative voting groups, the first recession in 60 years which seriously hit the prosperous South of England. In the recession many small businesses failed, many managers were made redundant, all homeowners saw their homes lose value, some lost their homes or were forced to sell on a depressed market. The recession had financial consequences which also broke up many marriages. By the end of 1992, I did not know a single middle-class family who had not experienced financial pressure or anxiety. You had to be very rich to fly above that storm. The anxiety was accentuated by the catastrophe of Lloyd's. Even if that affected only a narrower group, it totally ruined many of them.

Some of these families have now made a full recovery, but when a business goes bankrupt, it is finished; when a middle-aged manager loses his job, he seldom gets as good a one: when the house is sold, it is gone for ever.

The people who were suffering included the core of the old Tory support. They blamed the depth of the recession on the Government's policy, on joining the exchange-rate mechanism at too high a rate, on high interest rates, on the bank squeeze. They also resented the tax increases of the 1990s. They were suspicious of the Maastricht treaty and the single currency proposal.

All of these policies were personally associated with John Major, either as Chancellor or Prime Minister. The middle-class felt that they had been led into a trap. In the 1980s they had been encouraged to buy their own homes, to start their small businesses, to take on more staff, to build the enterprise economy by expanding their debts. When the recession came, the Government did nothing to help them: it just stood by as the banks foreclosed. The final and unforgivable insult was John Major's complacent remark: "If it isn't hurting, it isn't working." Those who had lost their homes, sometimes their families, their jobs or their businesses between 1990 and the end of 1992 were not voting Conservative in 1997. Why should they have done so? Some loyal Conservatives still love John Major; these people do not.

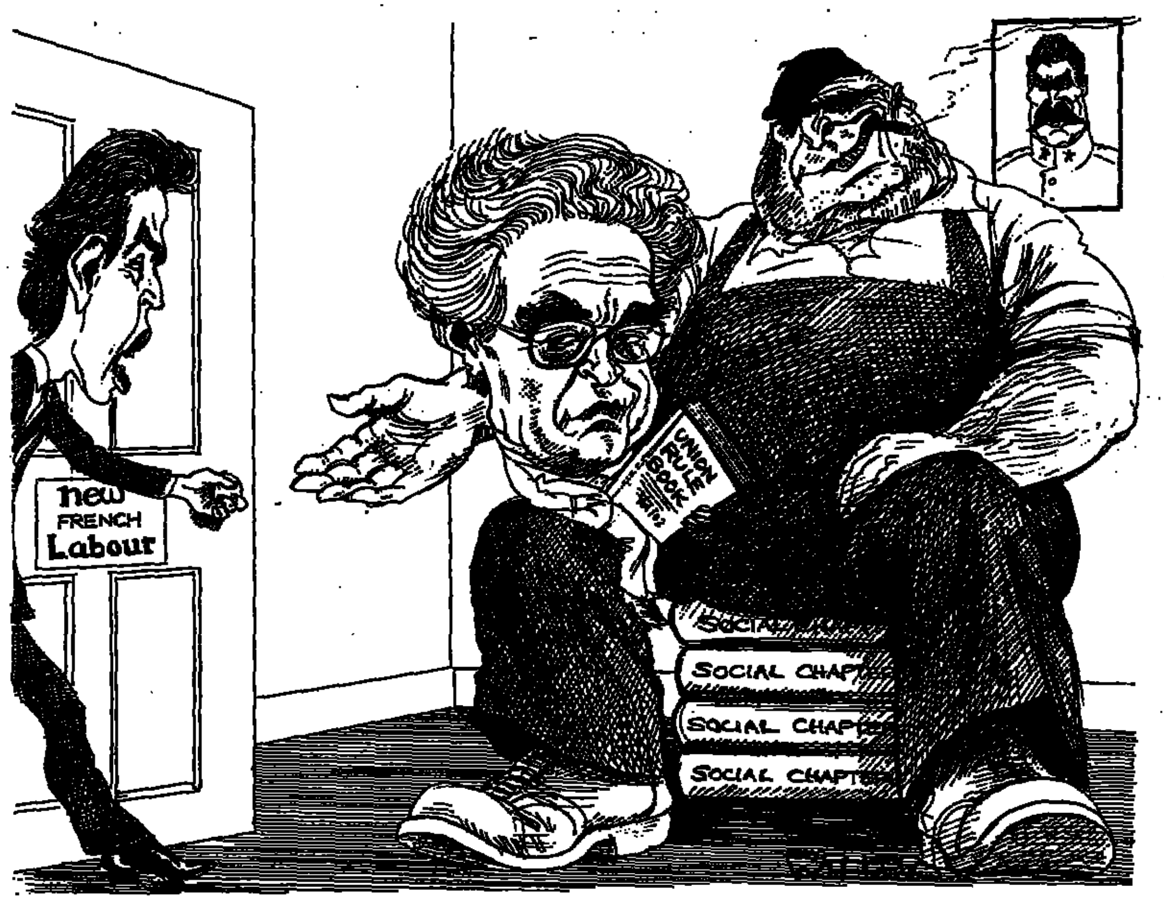
For all of these things, there was never any apology, even after the exchange rate policy had collapsed. On the contrary, the Government, including John Major and Kenneth Clarke, endlessly congratulated themselves on the recovery which followed the abandonment of their policy. John Major undoubtedly bears the main responsibility for the mishandling of the recession, but he also failed to restore confidence in his Government after the pound had been forced out of the ERM.

Nor did Kenneth Clarke help. Capital gains tax on long-term investment is a big issue for entrepreneurs, who need to be able to sell their businesses. There was rollover relief, but the 40 per cent rate is known by everyone to be far too high; Clarke did not introduce a lower long-term rate. Businessmen felt that he was at best a Chancellor who knew nothing about their concerns, and perhaps was too left-wing to care.

John Major's leadership, like that of George Bush, always had a problem with "the vision thing". His followers asked for inspiration: he fed them fudge. He behaved more like a whip than a leader. The ideas on which to rebuild the Tory party are not simply Thatcherism, but they will have to build on her work, on personal initiative, deregulation, lower taxes, opportunity, competition, enterprise. If the Tories allow Labour to become the party of business, they really will be finished.

Opening a doorway to the past

The Left's victory in France will do Tony Blair no favours, says **Peter Riddell**



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Forget the international solidarity of the Left. The French election results are bad news for Tony Blair. The big win of the Socialists represents a victory for "old" Labour and a vote for a defensive, protectionist attitude and against economic realism. It will strengthen the forces opposed to Mr Blair's attempt to create a new European social policy based on flexible labour markets.

The main focus in the past few days has been on the threat to the planned start of European monetary union from the undermining of President Jacques Chirac's political authority, and from the public dispute between Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the Bundesbank. These developments are obviously very important, but it is a mistake to believe that if monetary union is delayed, or a weak euro is established, that somehow lets Britain, and the Blair Government, off the hook.

The gainers from a weaker President Chirac and Chancellor Kohl would be the French Socialists and German Social Democrats. Both Lionel Jospin in France and Oskar Lafontaine in Germany have been eager to jump on the Blair bandwagon since May 1. But their vision of Europe is profoundly different from his. It is not just that they object to the fiscal tightening involved in meeting the Maastricht criteria for monetary union. They also advocate social and employment policies specifically rejected by new Labour.

Labour's European policy has been an act of faith, a belief that Europe has turned its back on the social model of the 1980s involving extensive new regulations and additional costs for business that discourage job creation. Mr Blair has insisted that the social chapter is merely "a sensible procedure for setting certain Europe-wide minimum standards", while Labour would not extend qualified majority voting to social security and would keep matters concerning pay and the right to strike out of the social chapter.

Mr Blair has argued that the mood has changed throughout Europe and that his "new" Labour views on the importance of flexibility, alongside measures to improve "employability", are shared by leaders such as Wim Kok in The Netherlands and former Communists like Walter Veltroni in Italy. Labour's business manifesto during the election claimed that "there is no appetite among other EU governments for significant new labour market legislation".

On arriving in Downing Street, Mr Blair discovered that the old appetites had not yet been satisfied. Several proposals were in the pipeline that might add to business costs, as was underlined when Jacques Santer, the Commission President, sent a letter to heads of government calling for a stronger "social Europe". At the Noordwijk meeting of European leaders ten days ago, Mr Blair was, according to President Chirac, the only leader to question the European "social model" and to speak in favour of flexibility. He made plain his opposition to any measures in the social chapter that would damage competitiveness.

Mr Blair is trying to develop what he calls a "third way" between the traditional European social model and what the continental Left dismisses as the "ultra-liberal" model of free-market Anglo-Saxon capitalism. The Blair version embraces the competitive world of "globalisation" and is anti-protectionist, unlike many on both the Left and Right in France. He believes the key to creating jobs is flexible labour markets, while government's role is to remove barriers to hiring people and to increase employability through better education and skills training.

All that sounds fine as an aspiration. But can Mr Blair reconcile flexible markets with signing up to the social chapter and endorsing the new employment chapter? He views them in minimalist terms as guarantors of decent standards and merely co-ordinating employment strategies. But there are real tensions between social cohesion and competitiveness, and striking contrasts in the costs of employing people between Britain and other big European countries.

Moreover, there are differences of emphasis within the Government. Robin Cook last week sounded more enthusiastic about the implications of signing the employment chapter than have either Mr Blair or Gordon Brown. Mr Cook has many allies both within the Government and on the Labour back benches. The balance of these forces will determine not just policy on the social and employment chapters but also the level of the minimum wage and how far the deregulatory measures of the Tory era are reversed or modified.

The humbling of President Chirac and the strengthening of the Left in France — and also to some extent in Germany — will make life harder for Mr Blair and wll encourage the "old" Labour forces in London. During the election campaign, M Jospin urged the creation of 700,000 jobs for young people (half in the public sector) and a reduction in weekly working hours from 39 to 35 hours (without loss of pay), and he opposed measures such as privatisation to improve the working of France's cumbersome state sector.

With Herr Lafontaine, he last week issued a joint statement calling for policies that would not only undermine monetary union but would prevent their economies from becoming more competitive. The monetary union debate has been so concentrated on how to meet the borrowing target that it is too often forgotten that many of the measures — such as the tightening of fiscal policy and the micro-policies to free up markets — are inherently desirable.

Mr Blair will later this week attend a European Socialist conference in Sweden. It will be an occasion for celebration — after Mr Blair's landslide victory and following M Jospin's triumph last night. But behind the bland tone of mutual congratulation, Mr Blair is out of step with many of his European Socialist and Social Democrat colleagues. After all, in many ways, he is much more of a Christian Democrat in his outlook and policies.

THE TIMES DIARY

Zoete suits

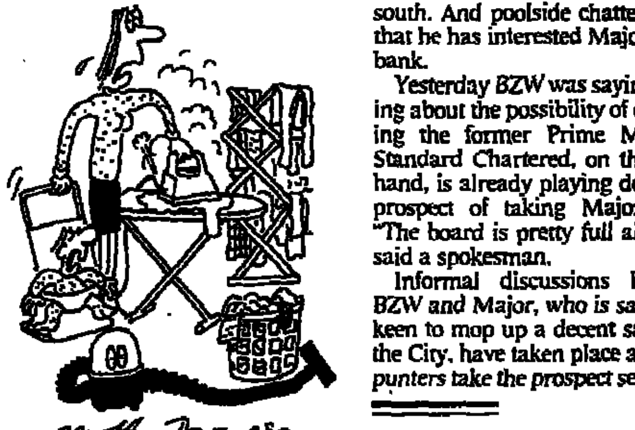
AS THE CITY waits for news of a board appointment for John Major, who was once a public relations officer for Standard Chartered bank, there are signs that he is working his friends on the Mediterranean holiday circuit for a position.

In the north of Portugal, where Norma and the former Prime Minister holiday courtesy of the Symington family, who have port interests in the area, talk among expats concerns a possible position in the investment bank Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Foremost among Portugal's expat sun loungers is Simon de Zoete, chairman of equities at BZW, who owns a villa down south. And poolside chatter has it that he has interested Major in the bank.

Yesterday BZW was saying nothing about the possibility of employing the former Prime Minister. Standard Chartered, on the other hand, is already playing down the prospect of taking Major back. "The board is pretty full already," said a spokesman.

Informal discussions between BZW and Major, who is said to be keen to mop up a decent salary in the City, have taken place and City punters take the prospect seriously.



"What does Tony Blair mean he's 'Going to make me look for work'"?

Prime cut

DOWN in Gloucestershire, bunting is out as the county cricket team leads the championship with Lord Vestey, butcher and farmer, at its helm.

Since Vestey took over from Diana, Princess of Wales, as patron of Gloucestershire Cricket Club, members have been commenting on the commendable upturn in their team's fortunes. The 3rd baron has now taken it upon himself to offer up his country home Stowell Park to the club. Ground staff have been instructed to mow with additional care so that Stowell can become the home ground of Gloucestershire's 2nd XI.

- *Celebratory pints of bitter are jollying up evenings at the The Boot pub in Tisbury, Wiltshire, where London's Groucho Club and its louche members were planning to open a country branch. The club, whose regulars include an irate Liam Gallagher and sundry drug-takers, has abandoned its plans after a feasibility study.*

Out of line

TIME to put an end to a vicious rumour doing the rounds of the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club at Brancaster, within driving distance of Sandringham, where the Duke of Kent can be spotted on the 19th hole in his capacity as patron.

Talk on the links has it that the Duke of York wrote to the club suggesting that he would like to join; furthermore, he asked whether he might go to the top of the waiting list and skip paying the joining fee and annual subscription. "They wrote back thanking him but saying that he had been placed at the bottom of the waiting list and that he would have to pay a subscription," said one senior member.

The Royal West Norfolk is flabbergasted: "Prince Andrew is a member, paying a subscription like everybody else."

Rematch

SUSAN Webber Wright, the federal judge who has been assigned the case of Paula Jones v Bill Clinton in Arkansas, once enjoyed a memorable encounter with the future President.

In 1974, Clinton was teaching a course at the University of Arkansas Law School, and Wright was one of his students. When it was time for the final grades, Clinton had to apologise to her: he had lost her exam papers. Would Wright take a "B" for the class and they could forget the matter? Wright refused, retook the exam and earned an "A".

Zhao sorry

ONE MAN missing from the handover celebrations in Hong Kong is a politician disgraced in China's eyes: the former party secretary Zhao Ziyang. He was the co-signatory with Baroness Thatcher of the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration that set out the terms for Hong Kong's handover but, after sympathising wth the Tiananmen Square protesters, he now lives under surveillance in Beijing.

- *Callers to Peter Lilley's campaign for the Tory leadership yesterday were given a mobile phone number to ring. Unfortunately, the phone concerned had been left in a taxi by Dicky Dukes, one of Lilley's sidekicks. When I called, it was answered by a brash American tourist who had clearly received a number of similar calls, for he answered: "Peter Lilley's campaign HQ," before explaining that he had never heard of the man.*

Fleming, left, and his spymaster, an inspiration for Bond

Golden buy

LONDON'S booksellers are so excited about a first edition James Bond that even Fleming's stocky oriental baddy Oddjob might have thrown his hat into the ring.

The 1957 edition of *From Russia With Love* in the latest catalogue of Nigel Williams Rare Books is being offered for £7,000 — one of the most exorbitant prices for any of Fleming's sought-after first editions.

The book is inscribed: "To Bill Once Again! from Ian", and was given by Fleming to Sir William Stephenson, one of Britain's most senior spymasters in the Second World War, and a man who directly influenced the creation of the James Bond character.

Fleming underwent a crash course in espionage under Stephenson's tutelage and was particularly impressed with Stephenson's "Station M", a laboratory of espionage devices similar to those exhibited by "Q" in the books.

P·H·S

FRANCE TURNS LEFT

French voters step through history's looking-glass into the past

The most peculiar election campaign in the history of the Fifth Republic ended yesterday, but France's surly electorate had already rendered its damning verdict the week before. From the first round of voting, it was clear that President Chirac, who dissolved the National Assembly ten months ahead of time in order to give his Government a clear run into economic and monetary union, had obtained no such mandate. But the scale of the revolt astonishes. What the French have voted against is not EMU as such, but the indispensable modernisation of France. Its lurch back to the Left is an extraordinary testament to the shortening cycle of French political life, to the volatility of its electorate, and to the fear of change.

The result is bad for Europe's battle to become globally competitive, and could be worse still for French democracy. If, as projections last night showed, Lionel Jospin has won a parliamentary majority even without Communist votes, France could yet join EMU if only to escape a meltdown of the franc. M Jospin's key adviser on Europe is expected to be Jacques Delors, and all the likely candidates for the Quai d'Orsay are convinced federalists. If EMU goes ahead with millions still on the dole, the ultimate victor of this election is likely to prove Jean-Marie Le Pen's xenophobic National Front.

For the next five years, France will be governed by a President whose authority is crippled, in cohabitation with a Government voted into office on the most nonsensical economic plaform of the entire European continent, East or West. He has himself to blame. His myopic pursuit of a goal that has long distorted French policy obscured what ought to have been the main national debate. France would not today be poised to take a giant step into the past had M Chirac not led the Right's seemingly impregnable parliamentary majority into battle on ground it should never have picked.

Euro or no euro, the most critical choice before France is between clinging to its overmighty, inefficient and insolvent public sector, and the deregulation necessary to unleash individual talent. France has world-beaters among its leading private sector enterprises but, despite one big and several smaller political revolutions, the country has never cast off the Colbertian incubus of an all-powerful interventionist State. That is the battle of ideas which was fought and won 18 years ago in Britain. But, Tony Blair should note, almost no French politician of Right or Left has posed the question in these terms.

Disgust with all mainstream parties has been widening for nearly a decade. It is no use asking footsore troops to die in battle unless they believe in the cause. Once again, this national debate has been ducked; and because the Right contains some people who understand that free markets can and must be reconciled with social justice, it is more culpable than M Jospin and his coterie of stale welfare Socialists. The Left did not deserve to win these elections; the Right surely deserved to lose.

M Chirac narrowly beat M Jospin for the presidency two years ago by seeming to rekindle some of Gaullism's early radicalism. In power, he has been a hopeless trimmer. When he launched this campaign with the slogan of a "new élan" for France, it was with no fresh agenda. The Left, which has none either, has slid into the vacuum created by the Right.

This was an election about jobs. Unemployment stands at 12.8 per cent and perhaps higher — the unemployment statistics which would ordinarily have been published last Friday mysteriously failed to see the light of day. M Jospin has no remedies. His promise to renegotiate the terms of monetary union is an irrelevance and his plans to create jobs by shortening the working week, cap pay rises and pad the already bloated public sector payroll ought to have been treated by any educated electorate with contempt. France has voted for a shot of morphine. It is a measure of the nation's pain, but anaesthetic has never cured a patient yet.

BACK TO BACK TO BASICS

American experience suggests some tough choices for Blair

Thinking the unthinkable may be one thing, doing the undoable is another. Tony Blair apparently used the visit of Bill Clinton last week to compare notes on welfare reform. Labour's own proposals will be unveiled in the Prime Minister's speech today.

The Blair Government will place unemployed single parents at the heart of its strategy. That focus carries political risks but is more than justified by the facts. Britain has the largest number of single parents in Europe. Of these, two thirds are currently jobless despite a relatively buoyant economy. The economic cost to the social security budget exceeds £7 billion: but the broader costs both to the individuals concerned and the community as a whole are much greater. There cannot be even the beginnings of a cure to the "dependency culture" that Mr Blair will highlight today without a substantial shift in these numbers.

The Prime Minister appears intent on reintroducing the labour market to those 800,000 unemployed single parents whose children are in full-time education. To meet that proper objective, Labour would require single parents to attend interviews at jobcentres where the options of work, further education or retraining would be discussed. By implication, refusal to participate in such sessions could lead to a reassessment of benefit entitlement. Mr Blair would tackle the question of childcare through a network of after-school homework clubs possibly funded from the National Lottery. The provision of opportunity, the Government hopes, will permit the large proportion of welfare recipients who would work if they could, to fulfil their ambitions.

These are worthwhile plans that deserve cross-party support. Labour has moved many miles in its outlook on such issues. But the Government has chosen those parts of the American agenda that it finds most palatable. It has deliberately rejected other elements pioneered by state governments of late. These include a much stronger degree of compulsion over whether to seek work, reeducation, or retraining with financial support contingent on that choice. The Bill accepted by President Clinton includes provisions on the withdrawal of all benefits to those who have received welfare payments for five years. Such ideas would "make eyes water" in this country.

The whole history, structure and character of the American welfare system is very different from our own. It has long been easy for politicians in the United States to score points with promises to "get tough" on single mothers. As John Major discovered during his ill-fated venture into this territory — "back to basics" — attitudes in Britain are rather different. Nonetheless, Labour has to be prepared for the probability that its chosen approach — steering rather than pushing people back towards employment — will not prove enough on its own.

That is the point where the unthinkable has to be thought. It is difficult to envisage how policy could succeed without some element of compulsion and the threat that benefit would be curtailed. A modified version of American practice might then seem valid. Frank Field, the Minister for Welfare Reform, has clearly thought through this possibility. The Prime Minister would prefer to take the voluntary route first. That will strike most people as entirely reasonable. Like President Clinton, Mr Blair may yet find himself drawn towards much more radical solutions.

GREEN FIGURES

The British garden is the acceptable face of civil disorder

That evergreen and hardy perennial radio programme *Gardeners' Question Time* is celebrating its goldenrod jubilee. The rest of the world may be dominated by war, economics and politics. For once parts of the United Kingdom are winning on the playing fields. But, for the heart of England, there is also the recording of the 50th anniversary of its favourite radio programme.

Man (and indeed woman) is seldom more creatively employed than in the garden. For a garden is a thing of beauty and a job for ever. And because of its climate and the character of its gardeners, the United Kingdom is the centre of the world for gardening opinions, and even for some of its gardens. So gardeners turned up in thousands yesterday, with their ailing pot plants and testing questions to impress the listeners, for the recording of their programme in the National Forest near Swadlincote.

As with other institutions, not everything in *Gardeners' Question Time* is lovely. Its entire former panel was transplanted by corporate cutting and down-weeding from the BBC to Classic FM. Now these transplants on the classical music programme attract only a third of their Radio 4 audience and have lost their sponsor. Some of the adlib questions posed without warning would tax Adam or Ashmole. What plants are suitable for a nudist colony? The answer should have been "nothing with prickles". How can the gardener stop frogs knocking over water-lilies? What plants are suitable for planting in a politically correct Islington window-box during a general election?

And the programme itself has changed since 1947. But it has evolved gradually like a well-established herbaceous border, in the English way, not by uprooting, design consultant and bulldozer. Fifty years ago plastic flowerpots, loam-free composts, grow-bags and imported plants were science fiction. There were few garden centres, merely greengrocers selling packets of seeds with optimistic pictures of the ideal flower. Fashions have changed in the gardening programme as well as the garden. For years, discussion was about the cocktail of chemicals needed to keep gardens free of pests and weeds. Now chemicals are restricted. So the vine weevil flourishes and its control has become the commonest question on the programme. And biological controls are the accessory of the future.

Few can aim at the perfection of the professionals. But millions want to try to do better than their neighbours. For many the English garden is something that dies if you don't water it and rots when you do. For the worst, even the artificial lawns on their patios die. But the garden and its tips are the native microcosm of the wider world.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Way forward for Labour on Ireland

From Sir David Goodall

Sir, John Lloyd ("Can Blair avoid another Drumcree?", May 30) is right to focus attention on the need to address Unionist as well as nationalist insecurity in Northern Ireland as the marching season looms — and also to set that need in the context of a wider, long-term strategy.

The vision of Ireland offered in the Downing Street declaration and the joint framework document — both of which new Labour has endorsed — is not political unification, but a unified civic and economic space on the island of Ireland, within which existing constitutional and political loyalties would be protected (ie, Northern Ireland would remain within the UK), "parity of esteem" for both communities would be entrenched, a variety of Ireland-wide institutions would be established and practical co-operation between the two parts of Ireland would gather momentum to a point at which national divisions and questions of sovereignty would begin to lose relevance.

For that vision to become a reality, both communities in Northern Ireland must be given reassurance — the nationalist community that they are not going to be submerged once again in a Unionist-dominated State and that their links with the Republic will be legitimised, and the Unionists that a compromise settlement will not prove to be a step down the slippery slope into a united Ireland.

An important part of this process will be to give political substance to the relationship between Britain and the island of Ireland as a whole, in accordance with the provision in the joint framework document that there should be a new Anglo-Irish agreement reflecting "the totality of relationships between the two islands". "Strand three" of the inter-party talks is supposed to address this aspect, but very little has so far been heard of it.

The historical, cultural, linguistic, economic and racial links between Britain and Ireland, taken with what Dr Garret FitzGerald has called "an extent of direct human and family ties . . . unprecedented between two independent states", make it illusory for Britain and Ireland to regard one another as foreign countries. The links between them constitute a unique relationship, whose potential political significance has in recent years been played down or suppressed.

With the Republic's independence from Britain and national self-respect now well beyond challenge, and with new Governments taking office both in London and Dublin, it is high time to start looking seriously for ways of giving this unique relationship some form of institutional expression.

Yours etc,
DAVID GOODALL,
Greystones, Ampleforth, York.
May 30.

Road use

From the General Director of the Institute of Economic Affairs

Sir, Anjana Ahuja's article, "Drivers' love of danger money" (Mind and Matter, May 26), can be summed up in two words long relevant to economists but apparently alien to transport engineers: incentives matter.

Who could be surprised to discover that if drivers were made to pay for road use according to the time spent in journeys they would be more inclined to drive more dangerously? And who would fund such research other than a government agency?

This seems such an absurd "experiment" that one wonders if its sole purpose is to undermine any concept of using prices (as opposed to edicts, licences or congestion) to ration road space.

The academics in charge of the project apparently need guidance from market-orientated economists. Road space is a scarce resource which can most efficiently be allocated among competing users by charging for it. The *method* of charging matters but transport economists, rather than transport engineers, as in this case, have long been working on these matters. They have shown how pricing for access by time of day and type of vehicle can spread the use of road space.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BLUNDELL,
General Director,
The Institute of Economic Affairs,
2 Lord North Street, SW1.
May 30.

From Mr Stephen Munslow

Sir, Anjana Ahuja writes of the necessity of limiting car use and prompting commuters to use public transport.

She makes the fundamental error of regarding the car and public transport as equivalent alternative modes of movement. However, motor advertisements do not promote cars for their facility in transferring people from A to B, but as symbols of independence, adulthood, sex, potency and power.

For young people the bus seems to me to symbolise failure, poverty, degradation and membership of the underclass. Until this is grasped, no inroads will be made into our chronic transport problems.

Yours sincerely,
S. MUNSLOW,
117 Midland Road,
Birmingham 30.
May 28.

Forebodings on Nato enlargement

From Mr Frank Allaun

Sir, "Russia and Nato bury the Cold War", proclaims your front page (May 28: see also leading article, same day).

The unhappy conclusion for many observers is exactly the opposite. The Cold War is now in danger of returning, with all that this entails, as Nato forces extend nearer and nearer Russia's borders. That is the view of Professor George Kennan, Lord Healey, Mikhail Gorbachev and other statesmen whose experience gives them qualifications to speak. And there has been scarcely any discussion in the British Parliament.

Russia unilaterally withdrew all its tanks from Northern and Central Europe at the end of the 1980s. Nato declares it "has no intention" of deploying nuclear forces on the territory of the new Nato states, but it does not have to as nuclear bombs can be launched from air and sea bases. There is no guarantee that conventional weapons will not at some future date be deployed near the Russian frontiers. Russia will not be able to veto such movement.

There are opponents to the agreement, notably in the American Congress and in the Russian Duma — and perhaps soon in the new Nato countries when they discover the huge sums they will have to pay to reconstruct their armed forces to fit in with those of Nato.

Nothing but good can come from Russia becoming a full member of the OECD, as your leading article says, but such membership should not be linked to the Nato agreement.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK ALLAUN
(*Labour MP for East Salford, 1955-83*),
11 Eastleigh Road, Manchester.
May 28.

From Professor Emeritus Robin Kemball

Sir, Your forebodings on Nato enlargement (leading article, May 15) are the more surprising for the absence of any suggested viable alternative. If, as I assume, this implies preserving the present status quo, what was our Cold War crusade for an undivided Europe all about? To deny the former Soviet satellites the security we claim for ourselves, and which they understandably crave, is to consign them to a power vacuum and probably expose them yet again to any resurgent military, political and economic clout of their great Slav neighbour.

At a time when Western statesmen are falling over one another to assuage what they consider to be "legitimate Russian fears", should we not spare a thought for the no less legitimate, and objectively more urgent, fears of those countries but recently liberated from Soviet tyranny?

As for your proviso that Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic "must be told . . . that . . . they must be especially active in building bridges to Moscow", it ill behoves this country, with our sorry history in defence of their rights, to lecture them in such terms.

By their history and their geography, these peoples — the Poles in particular — are in my view infinitely better equipped to deal with the Russian mind than most Western pundits and, once granted reasonable security, are perfectly capable of conducting their own foreign policies.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROBIN KEMBALL,
Chemin de la Coudrette 3,
CH-1012 Lausanne, Switzerland.
May 30.

Sierra Leone coup

From Dr Kamal Hossain and Mr Richard Bourne

Sir, Chief Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary-General, is right to describe the recent coup in Sierra Leone as unacceptable (report, May 26: see also leading article, May 29). Commonwealth and other observers had applauded the elections there in February 1996. The Harare declaration of 1991, followed by the tightening of the rules at Millbrook in New Zealand, make clear that regimes of force have no place in the Commonwealth.

The meeting in July of the Commonwealth ministerial action group is the first at which Britain will be represented by a Labour Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. The group must recommend to the Commonwealth Heads of Government, meeting in Edinburgh in October, that they suspend the military regime, while doing everything possible to assist the people of Sierra Leone to regain their rights.

The Commonwealth must learn that elections alone are insufficient to consolidate a plural democratic state especially where, as in Sierra Leone, it is a guarantor of a peace agreement after a civil war. It is ironic that the Nigerian dictator, General Abacha, has issued an ultimatum to Sierra Leone's military rulers to restore democracy. West African history might have been quite different if General Abacha had respected the results of Nigeria's June 1993 presidential elections.

Yours sincerely,
KAMAL HOSSAIN
(Chair, Advisory Commission),
RICHARD BOURNE
(Chair, Trustee Committee),
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative,
Trustee Committee,
c/o 28 Russell Square, WC1.
May 29.

Abortion case

From Dr Maeve White

Sir, Nigella Lawson ("A case that has forced us to face the ugly reality", May 28) concludes her thought-provoking commentary on abortion by posing the question: should "we" (society) make a mother bear the responsibility of carrying a child to term against her wishes? I say, "Yes, absolutely".

Society has the right to expect and encourage adults to behave responsibly. Responsibility means accepting the consequences of one's own actions. It is not responsible to expect others to terminate the pregnancy.

The time for a woman to decide if she wishes to be a mother is before a pregnancy, not during it, by which time she is already a "mother", the word used by Ms Lawson.

Yours truly,
MAEVE WHITE,
52 Burnbury Road,
Balham, SW12.
May 28.

From Dr R. H. Wheeler

Sir, In the Kelly abortion case you report (May 24) Anne Smith, QC, as arguing that the foetus's rights as a human being become active only at birth. Here Mrs Smith states the law but you go on to quote her:

> A foetus is an intrinsic part of the body of a pregnant woman. It is as much a part of her body as the placenta or umbilical cord. She is not merely a convenient container.

This is false biologically. The foetus, together with its cord and placenta, is a unity growing from a genetically separate fertilised ovum which has been implanted for development in the mother's uterus. Neither the foetus nor its membranes is an intrinsic part of the mother.

Furthermore, nobody holding the biological truth is constrained to see motherhood in terms of "merely a *convenient container*".

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD WHEELER,
Kingsclere, 14 Beacon Road,
Ditchling, Hassocks, West Sussex.

Hunting risks

From Mr John Spencer

Sir, Libby Purves's intervention on foxhunting (May 20: letters, May 24) is as admirable as it is unexpected. One point she fails to make is that on some days human casualties can exceed animal.

At the opening meet of the East Sussex some years ago I remember one former colonial governor being killed in a season that saw off three members of the hunt out of 70 subscribers.

The risks aren't all to the fox. Are we now to be prevented from living dangerously?

Yours etc,
JOHN SPENCER,
24 John Islip Street, SW1.
May 26.

Very new Labour

From Mr Jamie Keir

Sir, Congratulations to Ruth Kelly on the new arrival (report and photograph, May 28). This is the first time I've seen an MP kissing a baby after the election campaign has ended.

Yours faithfully,
JAMIE KEIR,
24 Bay Street, Fairlie, Strathclyde.
May 28.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Meat hygiene

From Dr M. T. Dinsdale

Sir, Dr Stuttaford ("Scots falling victim to the love of meat", May 28) should change his butcher if his meat is contaminated with animal faeces and is tenderised with the help of bacteria. Some faecal bacteria will be present (but visible faeces must not) and *E. coli* 0157 may increasingly be found amongst such bacteria, hence the greater emphasis on hygiene controls in the abattoirs and throughout the supply chain.

Faecal bacteria will not grow on the carcass during a prolonged hanging period, and neither will they "spread", as long as the temperature is kept at 5C or below and good hygiene maintained; it is the naturally occurring enzymes in the meat, not bacteria, that are responsible for the tenderising process, and these take time to work (one to three weeks).

Bacteria normally harmless to human beings may grow on the outside of the meat and be trimmed off; those that remain are easily killed by cooking. People should continue to enjoy the extra pleasure found in eating a steak that has been well hung.

Yours sincerely,
SLIM DINSDALE
(Food safety and quality consultant),
Broome Cottage,
Broome,
Bungay, Suffolk.
May 28.

Plea for windfalls to help disabled

From Mr Richard Jarman

Sir, Would it not be a positive move for the Halifax to act in the spirit of the new Building Societies (Distributions) Act, passed before the last election, and use some of the money from the Halifax's £1.4 billion unclaimed shares (report, Business, May 28) to benefit disabled customers who are named second on a joint account with a first-named carer?

Windfall shares arising from mergers or conversions often go to the carers alone. In this case many severely disabled people who rely on their carers to manage their personal finances have been deprived of their windfalls by the Halifax.

I worked closely with the former MP, Douglas French, who steered the distributions Bill through Parliament. In March the Northern Rock Building Society promised to put the cash equivalent of shares also arising from a windfall into a charitable foundation, which would then make a suitable donation to charities for disabled people and their carers.

What is stopping the Halifax from doing something similar?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD JARMAN
(Parliamentary Officer),
Sense (The National Deafblind and Rubella Association),
11-13 Clifton Terrace,
Finsbury Park, N4.
May 30.

Borrowed wisdom

From Lady Devlin

Sir, Before another time-honoured political dictum goes down in history, please can I make sure that it is ascribed to the right politician?

At the end of his political sketch on the new system of Prime Minister's Questions (May 22), Matthew Parris recalls Harold Macmillan once saying: "Events, dear boy, events." He may well, however, have borrowed this quotation from an earlier Prime Minister.

My late husband tells an amusing story in his autobiography, *Taken at the Flood* (Taverner Publications, 1996), of having to make polite conversation to Winston Churchill when he sat next to him at a Cambridge University Union dinner in 1924.

He was advised that Winston would usually wax eloquent on the subject of his father. So my husband asked him how he thought Lord Randolph's fall had come about.

> He [Winston] raised his fork slowly and held it in the air pondering. Then he said, "Events". He paused. He raised the fork higher and, lifting his voice as if in response to a conductor's baton, he said again "Events". Then he replaced the fork and upon a note of finality said, "Events".

Yours faithfully,
MADELEINE DEVLIN,
West Wick House,
Pewsey, Wiltshire.
May 26.

Amis at Hay-on-Wye

From Mr John Fuller

Sir, Readers of the *Times* Diary today really ought to be told that the Martin Amis story read by the author at the Hay-on-Wye Festival at the weekend was very far from being "quite awful".

The story used the child's voice to investigate a child's growing awareness of death. The deliberate strangeness of Amis's Anglo-American narrative seemed to me to be a textual device that lent an immense tenderness and humour to the story.

The marquee was packed, and the audience was, in my judgment, moved.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN FULLER,
Magdalen College, Oxford.
May 27.

Technical assistance

From Mr Berry Wilson

Sir, There has been condemnation of the use of electronic spelling aids to complete crossword puzzles (letters, May 16, 22, 28).

I am slightly dyslexic with an IQ of over 140. As part of my self-help to battle this I try to finish a crossword a day. I can often complete the grid in my head, but without the use of a spell-checker I often cannot complete it in ink.

For me and many thousands of dyslexia sufferers, the electronic spell-checker is a godsend.

Yours faithfully,
BERRY WILSON,
Hillside View,
Ellesmere Road,
Ashingdon, Rochford, Essex.
May 28.

From Dr J. G. Denholm

Sir, In his letter of May 22, Mr John Grant likens using an electronic gadget for solving crosswords to taking a taxi for the return journey from jogging.

At my age when I go "jogging" I have transport both ways and I use an electronic gadget for solving crosswords all the time.

Yours in happy senility,
JIM DENHOLM,
Gimsons,
Kings Chase, Witham, Essex.
May 24.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 31: The Princes Royal, Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, today visited lighthouses in Shetland and inspected aids to navigation in the Northern Isles from MV *Fingal*.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
May 31: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon from Japan.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 1: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Colonel Elliott Wilson (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County Borough of Belfast) at the Memorial Service for Sir Robin Kinahan (formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County Borough of Belfast) which was held in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, this morning.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by the Viscount Brookeborough.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 1: The Prince Edward, Patron, the Scottish Badminton Union, today attended the finals of the tenth World Badminton Championships and fifth Sudirman Cup at Scotstoun Leisure Centre, Glasgow, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Glasgow (Mr Patrick Lally, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

His Royal Highness, Patron, the Scottish Badminton Union, this evening attended a Dinner at the Moat House International Hotel, Glasgow.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 1: The Princess Royal, Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, today continued the visit to lighthouses in Shetland and the inspection of aids to navigation in the Northern Isles from MV *Fingal*.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 1: The Duke of Kent this evening attended a variety show in aid of Trinity Hospice at Her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, London W1.

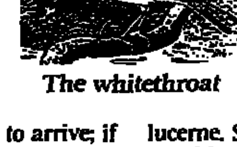
Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Honorary Fellow, Zoological Society of London, will open the new breeding facility for Asian elephants at Whipsnade Wild Animal Park, Bedfordshire, at 11.30; and, as Master, will attend the Trinity-Tide Dinner at Trinity House, Tower Hill, at 6.40pm.

The Duke of York, as Elder Brother, will also attend the dinner.

Nature notes

The noisiest birds in the countryside now are the whitethroats, singing their scratchy songs along the hedges where they have nests deep down in the undergrowth. House-martins are scarce again this year, but those that have returned have started building their mud nests under the eaves of houses. There may be more still to arrive; if the summer is fine they can go on nesting into early October. Snipe are nesting in bogs and swamps; the males fly round their territories making a rhythmical clicking call, and also dive down so that the air makes a humming sound as it flows past their outer tail-feathers. Wild roses opened everywhere last week, some a deep pink, some pale pink or white. The fragile flowers soon lose a few petals. There are massed ranks of ox-eye daisies along many railway embankments. At the edge of cornfields large scarlet poppies are coming out and there are sometimes stray plants of purple lucerne. Some fields are turning blue as cultivated flax comes into bloom. Flower buds are appearing on the lime trees, growing on the wing-like bracts that will eventually carry the seeds away, and small green sloes are developing on the blackthorn bushes. DJM



The whitethroat

Birthdays today

Today is the 44th anniversary of The Queen's Coronation.

King Constantine of The Hellenes *celebrates his 57th birthday today.*

Lord Boyd-Carpenter, 89; Air Marshal Sir Ivor Broom, 77; Miss Heather Couper, astronomer, 48; Mr Handel Davies, aeronautical engineer, 85; Mr Mark Elder, conductor, 50; Mr Marvin Hamlisch, composer, 53; the Right Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, 61; Dame Rosalyn Higgins, FBA, QC, 60; Dr Sir Donald Irvine, former chairman of council, Royal College of General Practitioners, 62; Sir Kenneth Jupp, former High Court judge, 80; Mr Gay Kindersley, racehorse trainer, 67; Miss Sonia Lawson, artist, 63; Sir Denis Mountain, former chairman and managing director, Eagle Star Insurance Company, 68; Professor Robin Orr, composer, 88; Canon Dr Anthony Phillips, former Headmaster, King's School, Canterbury, 61; Miss Carol Shields, novelist, 62; Sir Christopher Slade, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 70; Mr Johnny Speight, writer, 77; Sir Sigmund Sternberg, chairman, ISYS, 76; Mrs Barbara Tate, president, Society of Women Artists, 70; Mr Charlie Watts, Rolling Stones' drummer, 56; Mr David Wheaton, tennis player, 28.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Marquis de Sade, writer and revolutionary, Paris, 1740; Thomas Hardy, novelist and poet, Higher Bockhampton, Dorset, 1840; Jesse Boot, 1st Baron Trent, chemist and philanthropist, Nottingham, 1850; Sir Edward Elgar, Master of the King's Musick 1924-34, Broadheath, near Worcester, 1857; Johnny Weissmuller, Olympic swimming champion and actor, Freidorf, Romania, 1904.

DEATHS: James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton, Regent of Scotland 1572-81, executed, Edinburgh, 1581; Emile Littré, lexicographer, Paris, 1881; Giuseppe Garibaldi, Italian patriot, Caprera, 1882; Sir Redvers Buller, VC, General, Crediton, 1908; Alfred Austin, Poet Laureate 1896-1913, Ashford, Kent, 1913; Herman Darewski, composer, London, 1947; Emile-Auguste Chartier (Alain), philosopher, Le Vésinet, France, 1951; Victoria Sackville-West, writer, Sissinghurst Castle, Kent, 1962.

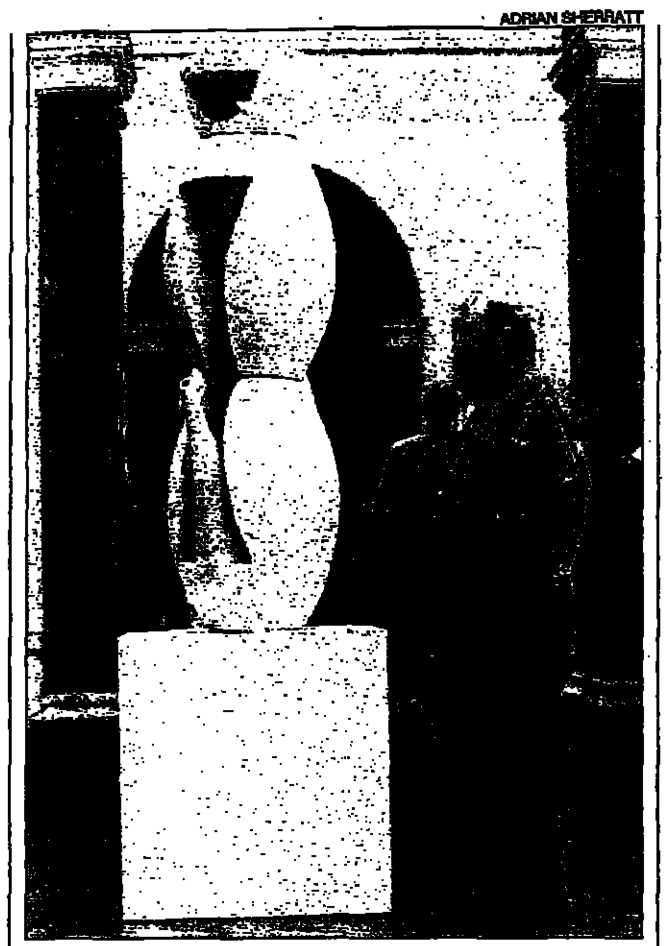
The Gordon "No Popery" riots began in London, lasting a week, 1780.

Guglielmo Marconi patented his wireless telegraphy apparatus, 1896.

Queen Elizabeth II was crowned in Westminster Abbey, 1953.

The PLO was formed in Jerusalem, 1964.

ADRIAN SHERRATT



A visitor admiring a piece by Phillip King at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in London yesterday

Schools news

Northbourne Park *Preparatory School, Kent*

Academic, Music and Sports awards have been made by the following schools:
Dover College, Eton (Bursary), Kent College, King's Canterbury, Oundle, St Edmund's Canterbury, Wycliffe College to Hannah Redman, Zachary Lait, Barnie Darby, Richard George, Mathew Doran, Elizabeth Arnold, Eleanor Brace, Michael Hedges and Merryn Hodding.

Baroness Trumpington will be guest of honour on Speech Day, Saturday, June 28.

Oundle School

Oundle School announces the following Scholarships for 1997:
Sixth Form Scholarships: (Exhibition): Ian Barrett (Cromer High School); (Exhibition): Angharad Parry (Tower House, Barmouth).
Academic Scholarships: Josephine Adams (Riddlesworth Hall); Isobel Arthur (Bilton Grange); Edward Barker (Bilton Grange); Isabel Burnham (Windlesham House); Robert Brocklehurst (Terra Nova); David Buxton (King's College, Cambridge); William East (Spratton Hall); Harry Gibson (Beachborough); Alexander Hill (Kingshott); Timothy Jackson (Millfield Prep); William Kendall (Caldicott) Philip Mossman (Haileybury Junior); Thomas Pochciol (Repton Prep); Edward Stevenson (Holmwood House, Essex); Thomas West (Terra Nova); Thomas Wide (Winchester House); Alexander Wright (Orwell Park).
Continuation Scholarships Confirmed: Ruth Brewster (St Hugh's, Woodhall Spa); Lucinda Roberts-Holmes (Winchester House and Godstowe)
Scholarships — Laxton: Junior Scholarships: Natalie Chopra (Laxton Junior School); **Junior Exhibition:** Philip Dobbs (Oundle Middle School); Sushrut Yalamanchili (St Thomas More, Kettering). **Art:** Olivia Anderson (Laxton School). **6th Form Exhibition:** Olivia Ryan (Stamford High School), **Junior Music:** Geoffrey Baines (Laxton School). **Senior Music:** Georgina Owens (Stamford School for Girls).
General Scholarships: Tamsin Fussey (S. Anselm's); Thomas Georgi (The Hall, Hampstead); James Humphries (Town Close House); Robert Robinson (Mowden Hall School); George Smith (Witham Hall); Elizabeth Godfrey (S. Anselm's).
Continuation Scholarships: Edward Grant (Caldicott); John Huntingdon (St John's College, Cambridge); Timothy Jeffries (Town Close House); George Mills (Orwell Park); Roxanne Piggott (Kingshott); Zack Simons (Stancliffe Hall); Christopher Wright (Orwell Park).
Junior Scholarships: David Jordan (Croftinloan, Pitlochry); Laura Short (Grantham Prep); Jonathan Michaelides (Fairfield School, Loughborough).
Music Scholarships: Peter Blythman (Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford); Alison Bulmer (Cheltenham Ladies' College); Isabel Burnham (Windlesham House); Clare Cazelet (Downe House); Anna Gaymer (Berrystead & Woodlands Prep); Benjamin Gimson (King's College, Cambridge); Elizabeth Godfrey (S. Anselm's); Zachary Lait (Northbourne Park); (Exhibition): Genevieve Pott (Orwell Park); Alexander Stewart (Beachborough); (Exhibition): Toby Thomas (Berrystead & St Michael's Jersey); Jonathan Turner (Trevor Roberts', London); Susannah Unwin (Berrystead & Barnardiston Hall); (Exhibition) Alexander Wright (Orwell Park).
Art Scholarships: (Exhibition): James Sawyer (Moreton Hall); (Exhibition): Archie Shuttler (Edge Gove).
Technology Scholarships: Timothy Francis (Belmont School); Nicholas Harris (Chelmsford Grammar).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr B.K. Romer-Lee
and Miss I. Montgomery
The engagement is announced between Benjamin, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robin Romer-Lee, of Groton, Suffolk, and Iona, daughter of Sir David and Lady Montgomery, of Kinross.

Mr C.V.deP. Doyle
and Miss A. Fitzherbert-Brockholes
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Doyle, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and Andra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Fulke Fitzherbert-Brockholes, of Fulham, London.

Mr J.A. Fenton
and Miss E.C. Holroyd
The marriage will take place on Saturday, June 7, 1997, at All Saints Church, Ascot, between Mr James Antony Fenton, son of Mr and Mrs Antony H. Fenton, and Miss Elizabeth Catherine Holroyd, daughter of Captain and Mrs Brian S. Holroyd. The Rev Piers Nash-Williams will officiate.

Mr R. Khan
and Miss S.T. Hussain
The engagement is announced between Raza, eldest son of Mr and Mrs S. Khan, of Manor Park, London, and Samina, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Hussain, of Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.

Mr M.J. Ludwig
and Miss J.C. Fallows
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs John Ludwig, of Hackney, and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Fallows, of Barnet.

Mr A.H. Peachey
and Miss C.V. Gordon
The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Peachey, of Quenington, Cirencester, Gloucestershire and Caroline, daughter of Mrs Hopton and stepdaughter of Mr Geoffrey Hopton, of Hardwicke, Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire.

Mr J.R. Steele
and Miss L. Garey
The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr and Mrs H.J. Steele, of Crawley, Hampshire, and Liisa, younger daughter of Mr J.R.H. Garey, of Bowerchalke, Wiltshire, and Mrs H.J. Whyte, of Northington, Hampshire.

Latest wills

Elizabeth Collier, of East Ocford, Kent, left estate valued at £2,028,050 net.
She left shares in her estate to Dr Barnardo, and Old People's Housing Association, Sevenoaks.

Phyllis Evelyn Van Nievelt, of Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire, left estate valued at £2,138,758 net.
She left £1,000 each to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PDSA, RSPCA, Guide Dogs for the Blind, NSPCC, Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, Blue Cross and PAWS; and £5,000 to Emmanuel church, Loughborough.

Marriages

Mr J.A.F. Noel-Baker
and Miss L.M.A. Seydlitz
The marriage took place on Saturday at St James's, Sussex Gardens, London W2, of Mr Allan Noel-Baker, younger son of the Hon Francis and Mrs Noel-Baker, of Euboea, Greece, to Miss Louise Seydlitz, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Slawomir Seydlitz, of Harefield, Middlesex. Prebendary Austen Williams officiated, assisted by the Rev William Wilson.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Alexander Chance and Miss Joanna Stanford. Mr Philip Noel-Baker was best man.

Mr A. Cuming
and Miss V.H. Avern
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Petworth, West Sussex, of Mr Alastair Cuming, younger son of Colonel and the Hon Mrs R.H. Cuming, of Swanbourne, Buckinghamshire, to Miss Victoria Avern, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Avern, of Kirdford. Canon Francis Collins officiated.

Mr J.A.C. Maitland
and Miss S.H. Barker
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, of Mr John Maitland, son of Mr and the Hon Mrs John Maitland, of Stancombe, Gloucestershire, to Miss Susanna Barker, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs David Barker, of Up Nately, Hampshire. The Rev A.J. Brown officiated.

Mr J.W.B. May Somerville
and Miss A.C.H. Fraser
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Bartholomew's, Corsham, Wiltshire, of Mr William May Somerville, only son of Mr and Mrs Michael May Somerville, of Lamerhooe, Devon, to Miss Anne Fraser, younger daughter of Mr and the Hon Mrs Malcolm Fraser, of Corsham. The Dean of Windsor officiated, assisted by Canon Roger Clifton and the Rev James Campbell.

Mr T.M.C. Holcroft
and Miss C.L. Marr
The marriage took place on Saturday in Winchester Cathedral of Mr Thomas Holcroft, second son of Sir Peter Holcroft, of Berrington, Shropshire, and of Mrs Simon Firbank, of Bourton, Dorset, to Miss Camilla Marr, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Marr, of Sutton Scotney, Hampshire. The Rev A. Jardine officiated.

Mr C. Kirkpatrick Whitby
and Miss J.L. Wright
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 31, at St Anne's Church, Wandsworth, London, of Mr Craig Kirkpatrick Whitby, to Miss Joanna Wright, eldest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Reginald Peter Wright, of Sheffield.

A reception was held at 30 Pavilion Road, Knightsbridge.

Mr D.P.R. Govett
and Miss J.R. Streeten
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 31, at St Peter's Church, Eaton Square, of Mr David Govett, son of Mr Peter Govett and of Mrs Michael Moore, to Miss Jennifer Streeten, daughter of Mr and Mrs Basil Streeten. The Rev Desmond Tillyer officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Charlotte Terry and Maximilian Adorian. Mr Malcolm Freeman was best man.

A reception was held at Forbes House and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr N.M. Mavroleon
and Senorita M. Aguayo
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 31, at the private Chapel of Agios Basileos, Porto Heli, Greece, of Mr Nicholas Mavroleon, younger son of Mr Bluey Mavroleon, of Perroy, Switzerland, and of Contessa Ascanio Cicogna, of London, to Senorita Martha Aguayo Flores, daughter of Senor and Senora Manuel Aguayo, of Mexico City.

Mr J.M. Morris
and Miss A.J. Reeves
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 31, at the Church of St Mary and St Peter, Wilmington, between Mr Jason Morris, only son of Dr and Mrs Desmond Morris, of Oxford, and Miss Anita Reeves, younger daughter of Mr Geoffrey Reeves and the late Mrs Reeves, of Wilmington, East Sussex. The Rev David Smith officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by her sister Miss Angela Reeves, Harriet March, Jack Reeves and Laurence Gerhardt. Mr Adrian McGlynn was best man.

A reception was held at Charleston Manor, Litlington.

Mr B.M.J. Strickland
and Miss C.A.L. Harrison-Topham
The marriage took place on Saturday, at the Church of St Mary and St Alkelda, Middleham, of Mr Benjamin Strickland, son of Mr and Mrs Benjamin Strickland, and Miss Charlotte Harrison-Topham, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Harrison-Topham. The Rev David Eyles officiated, assisted by the Right Rev Patrick O'Donoghue, Bishop in West London.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Meeka Harrison-Topham, Poppy Ropner, Holly Bourne-Arton and George and Oliver Lamb. Mr Mark Bridgeman was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in Corsica.

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Jacob raised a sacred pillar of stone in the place where God had spoken with him, and he offered a drink-offering on it and poured oil over it. Jacob called the place where God had spoken with him Bethel.
Genesis 35 : 14,15

BIRTHS

BENHAM-FRARY - On May 18th, to Maria and James, a daughter, Lucia, a playmate for Henry (the spaniel).

CHARLES - On May 9th, to Anita (née Humphries) and Edward, a daughter, Sasha Ida Rhiannon.

HUGHES - On April 20th 1997, to Penny (née Davies) and David, a son, Robert Lloyd, a brother for Alexander.

MORRISSEY - On 29th May, to Lucy (née Piper) and Charles, a daughter, Poppy Alexandra, a sister for Henry and Emily.

ROWE (LEITH) - On Monday 17th March at R.U.H. Bath, born to David, Meaghan and Gemma Julia, a son, Jacob Carl Steven (3lbs 1oz) and a daughter, Zalie Pamela (2lbs 11½oz). Heartfelt thanks to NICU and Birthing Unit at the R.U.H.

DEATHS

BAYLY - In Winchcombe on 28th May, Peter, aged 83 years. Beloved husband of the late Bunty, much loved father of Diana, Theodora and Peter, dear grandfather of Clytie, Harriet, Peter, William, Lydia and Ben. Funeral Service at St Peters Church, Winchcombe at 12 noon on Thursday 5th June. Flowers or donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care sent c/o Mason & Stokes, 54 Hewlett Road, Cheltenham, GL52 6AH.

CARLISLE - Iain Ogilvie Dr. Husband of Jill. Beloved of a large family. Peacefully in his sleep 29th May. In the bed in which he was born 1926. Cremation 12 noon Friday 6th June Exeter crematorium Northbrook Park, Topsham Road. No flowers donation in lieu to The British Heart Foundation.

BENTLEY - Caroline Jane of Lots Road, Chelsea, much loved daughter of David and the late Patricia, and dearly loved sister of Keith and the late Christina. Died suddenly at home on 1st May 1997 aged 39 years. The funeral service will be held at Cambridge City Crematorium, West Chapel, at 1.30 pm on Friday 6th June. The family invite her friends to join them at the Dolphin Hotel, St Ives, Cambridge after the service. Donations in memory of Caroline for the Save the Children Fund may be sent c/o H.J. Paintin Ltd, 43 High Street, Linton, Cambridge CB1 6HS.

COLE - George William C.B.E. peacefully in his sleep on May 28th 1997 at St Luke's Nursing Home, Oxford, in his 94th year. Will be much missed by his family and wide circle of friends. Service at St Giles Church, Oxford, on Friday June 6th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations most welcome for St Bartholomew's Church Restoration Appeal, Fingest, c/o Edward Carter (F/D), 107 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 1QS. Enquiries (01235) 528293.

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MONCREIFFE - Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe Elisabeth at Moncreiffe House on May 29th 1997. The funeral will be held at midday on Thursday 5th June at Moncreiffe House.

JONES - On 29th May 1997, Geoffrey, dearly loved husband of Diana. Service at St Nicolas Church, Guildford, on Thursday 5th June at 11.30 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please.

HOLE - Jean Audrey on 29th May peacefully after a long illness, much loved mother of Martin, Jonathan and Madeleine. Will be greatly missed. Also heartfelt thanks to St Wilfrid's Hospice, Chichester. Funeral at Chichester Crematorium on Friday 6th June at 2 pm. Flowers to Kevin Holland Funeral Services, 246 Chichester Road, Bognor Regis.

KENNEDY - Formerly of Guernsey, Robert Edgar Helme who passed away peacefully on 29th May 1997 aged 91 years at the Countess of Chester Hospital. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service will take place on Friday 6th June 1997 at Chester Crematorium at 10.30 am. Donations would be appreciated for Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund. All enquiries to Co-operative Funeral Services, 12 Lower Bridge Street, Chester, Tel: (01244) 323970.

NOWELL - On May 22nd 1997 in hospital at Brighton, Dorothy Hamilton, widow of John Nowell. Funeral Service at Woodvale Crematorium, Lewes Road, Brighton on Friday June 6th, at 12.45 pm. No flowers by request but donations for RAF Benevolent Fund or Musicians Benevolent Fund may be sent to Nigel Dengate Funeral Services, 143 Sackville Road, Hove, tel: (01273) 204410.

PAYNE - Alfred John (John) on 27th May 1997. Very much loved by all his family and friends. Ex R.A.F. Officer, Burma Star and Freeman of the City of London. Funeral Service at St Elizabeth's of Portugal R.C. Church, Richmond on Wednesday 4th June 1997 at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, Surrey.

PIGOTT - On May 29th 1997 in her 88th year, Sheila Honoria, dear friend of Barbara Coombs. Donations to RSPB, of which she was a Fellow, may be sent to F. Curtis & Son, 11 Portway, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 8QC.

PLUMPTON HUNTER OF PLUMPTON - On May 30th, peacefully after a long and courageous fight against cancer Helena adored wife of Edward, mother of Caroline, Charles, William, Victoria and Robert and daughter of Major and Madam Stuart-Stevenson of Castlemilk, Torrance and Sunnyside. Service at St Mary the Virgin, Holy Island on Thursday 5th June at 11am.

PRATT - Roddy peacefully on May 30th after a short illness bravely borne, much loved husband of the late Ursula, beloved father of Adrian and Zara, and grandfather of Harry. Funeral Service at St Albans Church, Frant, East Sussex on Friday, 6th June at 10.45am. Family flowers only. Enquiries to E.R. Hickmott & Son, funeral directors tel: (01892) 522452. At his request there will be No Memorial Service.

WHIFFIN - Elsie Janet (Mac) peacefully in hospital on Tuesday May 27th 1997 aged 86 years. Cremation at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Monday June 16th at 2.30 pm. Donations, if desired, to British Heart Foundation c/o L. Hawkins and Sons Ltd, Funeral Directors, Leatherhead.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

MULL of KINTYRE - Remembering our friends and colleagues, and their widows and loved ones, on this, the third anniversary of the Chinook crash on 2nd June 1994.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CHAPMAN - Hugh died June 2nd 1992. Greatly missed by father, mother and family.

BIRTHDAYS

DAVID HEWITT from Rochdale is 50 today.

DUNCAN Happy Birthday! Just wanted you to know I love you very much. Ursula xxx.

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OBITUARIES

NIKOLAI TIKHONOV

Nikolai Tikhonov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers (Prime Minister) of the Soviet Union, 1980-85, died yesterday aged 92. He was born on May 14, 1905.

The role of Nikolai Tikhonov within the Soviet leadership was always subordinate to that of the party leader, and his promotion to the headship of the Soviet Government owed much to his long-standing friendship with Leonid Brezhnev. Given the close Brezhnev connection and his advanced age, it was not expected that he would retain his high post for long after Andropov had established himself in power. That he held it for five years may be attributed both to Andropov's premature demise and to the fact that he was as much a technocrat as a politician.

Nikolai Aleksandrovich Tikhonov was born into a middle-class Ukrainian family in the city of Kharkov. He attended a technical school in Dnepropetrovsk which specialised in the railway industry and, on leaving it in 1924 his first job was as an assistant train driver. After this he became a technician in a mine and in 1930, following further study, qualified as a metallurgical engineer from the Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute. Between 1930 and 1947 Tikhonov served in a variety of industrial posts in the Ukraine as a technical engineer, mine supervisor and subsequently chief engineer in various plants.

Though it was during the 1930s that he made the acquaintance of Leonid Brezhnev, Tikhonov himself joined the Communist Party surprisingly late for someone who was eventually to reach Politburo rank, becoming a member only in 1940 when he was aged 35. Between 1947 and 1950 Tikhonov was a factory manager in the Dnepropetrovsk area of which Brezhnev at that time was regional party secretary.

When Tikhonov moved from industry to politics, it was to governmental rather than party administration. In 1950 he joined the staff of the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and by 1955 he was a Deputy Minister. With the abolition of most of the industrial ministries by Khrushchev in 1957, Tikhonov found himself back in his native Ukraine as chairman of the Dnepropetrovsk regional economic council.

He remained in that post for three years, but from 1960 onwards his career proceeded exclusively in Moscow, as he gradually made his way to the top of the ministerial hierarchy. From 1960 until 1963 he was deputy chairman of the State Scientific and Economic Council and from 1963-65 deputy chairman of Gosplan (the state planning committee). In 1965 he became a deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and from 1976 was First Deputy Chairman to Aleksei Kosygin. It is highly probable that Tikhonov owed the first of these promotions to Brezhnev's desire to have someone with close connections to himself as a counterweight to Kosygin within the Council of Ministers, and the second to Brezhnev's wish that Tikhonov should succeed to Kosygin's post. When Kosygin resigned because of ill-health in October 1980 (just two months before his death). Tikhonov was duly appointed his successor, even though he was then already 75 years of age.

Tikhonov's membership of the "Brezhnev group" had brought him party as well as ministerial promotion. In 1961, when Khrushchev was still party leader but Brezhnev was already an influential Secretary of the Central Committee and Politburo member, Tikhonov became a candidate member of the Central Committee and in 1966, by which time Brezhnev had succeeded Khrushchev, a full member. It was not, however, until the late 1970s that Brezhnev succeeded in elevating Tikhonov to the highest ranks of the party leadership. Tikhonov was into his eighth decade by the time he became in 1978 a candidate (non-voting) member and in 1979 a full member of the Politburo.

Tikhonov's style was low-key and unflamboyant. His responsibilities for the economy led him to take a special interest in the experience of, and technical cooperation with, both East and West Germany. He travelled to the GDR more than twenty times and to the Federal German Republic on at least four occasions. He had seen more of the West than had a majority of his Politburo colleagues, having twice visited the United States as well as Austria, Canada, Finland, Greece, Italy and Switzerland.

During Chernenko's 13 months as Soviet leader, Tikhonov, though the older man, enjoyed better health and undertook some of the burden of high-level diplomacy which would normally have fallen to the General Secretary. In protocol terms, he was the number two person within the system, though the political reality was different, as Mikhail Gorbachev's election as General Secretary when Chernenko died was to illustrate.

Since Tikhonov's post as Chairman of the Council of Ministers carried with it heavy responsibilities for the running of the economy, it was not to be expected that Gorbachev, with his interest in the reorganisation and invigoration of the Soviet economy, would wish to leave such an important job in the hands of someone of Tikhonov's advanced years. Accordingly, he was retired, for "health reasons", in September 1985.

ERIC BARTON

Eric Barton, bookseller, died at Putney on May 21 aged 88. He was born on May 7, 1909.

THE bookdealing world lost a notable character, and Richmond, Surrey, a stimulating port of call for residents and visitors, when Eric Barton was obliged to give up his Baldur Bookshop in 1993. He established the shop in Hill Rise, Richmond, in 1936 and after the Second World War it became so significant a centre for both the town and the book world that when the lease expired in 1978, a vigorous local campaign was launched, persuading the owners to renew it for a further 15 years. This allowed Barton to continue presiding in inimitable style over one of the most individual, maddening, but rewarding second-hand bookshops in the London area.

Regulars knew how to respond when they opened the slightly-stuck and battered glass door, sending the ancient bell jangling, and sparking the owner into abrasive reflex action. "What are you looking for?", or on more direct days, "What do you want?" would greet the newcomer — an response likely to stop the unwary in his or her tracks.

An inquiry about a particular category of book could bring the exasperated comment, "Oh God — we don't sell things like that". And if the insistent book-hunter showed signs of staying, the next declaration would probably be "We're just closing". If it rained during trading hours, Barton, wearing a raincoat of Columbo style, would hover immediately inside the locked door, waving off soaked and desperate customers, and mouthing the explanation that he would open — when the rain stopped. His normal post was on a cushioned chair behind an ancient cash register and a complex of battered reference books, backed by a stern sign: "Public Not Beyond This Point."

But for the determined, the rewards could be rich, because Baldur was packed with a marvelous array of antiquarian and second-hand books, plus posters, letters, postcards, photographs, magazines, newspapers and a range of memorabilia. And regular customers, once initiated into the Barton style, and accepted by him as buyers with bona fide interests, would find the proprietor thoroughly genial and splendid company.

He would offer anecdotes and gossip about a variety of topics and intimate worlds, from theatre to sport — and allow the favoured to proceed behind the sign and study the more specialised material in the little room at the back. Barton would mention endless famous personalities, not in any sense of name-dropping, but simply because his relationship with them was genuine and germane to the debate in hand, and he had a vast store of information to tease, entertain or inform.

The son of a solicitor (who died when the boy was six), and a headmistress, Eric William Wild Barton was born at Kew, and lived in the area all his life. He went to school locally and then to Battersea Grammar School before attending University College London. At 18 he joined a small publishing house, soon moved to another, and in later life would explain drily that "wherever I went, I was automatically sacked after a few months — for complete lack of interest".

He tried bookselling with two partners in Crouch End in 1932-33, but the Depression was the wrong time for a shoestring enterprise. With only a few pounds left, he and one partner moved to Richmond Hill, but his colleague was a musicologist who worked during the night, slept in daylight hours, and would turn up only at closing time. After a few weeks he walked out, leaving Barton on his own.

Army call-up was deferred until 1941 for the owner of a one-man business; Barton then joined the Royal Army Medical Corps (being disqualifed from combat duty when the premature discharge of a rifle perforated an eardrum), and served in Normany, Holland and Germany.

Demobbed in 1946, he found himself, on returning to the shop, somehow acquiring 2,000 postcards, and to his surprise discovered a growing interest in this field. Theatrical and military cards especially became highly collectible, with the Baldur Bookshop paving the way to the point that Eric Barton is credited with single-handedly reviving a craze which had died out with the First World War. With non-collectors happy to dispose of postcard albums, supplies poured in, Barton declaring he held a stock of a million cards by the early 1950s.

Collectors who made the trek to Hill Rise ranged from the writer Caryl Brahms and, later, the television presenter Lucinda Lambton, to the comedian Ronnie Barker — an enthusiast for saucy Edwardian cards. Others who shopped for years by post included the cricket commentator John Arlott, who took advantage of the specialist collection of cricketana always on offer. Other customers who built a valued relationship with Barton the character and his endless resources included T. S. Eliot, Sir Compton Mackenzie, and Bernard Levin.

Eric Barton had a wide-ranging interest in literature and literary figures, including Dylan Thomas. In 1977 he led a nationwide campaign to buy the Thomas boathouse at Laugharne, to preserve it as a memorial.

The most successful Barton crusade was to have Oscar Wilde's centenary commemorated in 1954, primarily by having an LCC plaque erected at No 16 (now 64) Tite Street, Chelsea, Wilde's home from his marriage in 1884 until his arrest in 1895. This began with an appeal to *The Times*: as Wilde's homosexuality was still generally regarded with great distaste, Barton had his wife sign the letter as a subtle means of evoking sympathy.

In later years Barton was persuaded to thin out the stock, somewhat to the regret of regulars discovering they could now walk freely among the books and extract volumes without risk of bringing a stack toppling to the floor — but also losing the thrill of the treasure-hunt, never knowing what might be revealed.

Barton took a special interest in the life of particular areas of London, most notably Richmond, as a committee member of the Richmond Society. He was fierce in protection of its amenities, especially if he saw them as under threat by development.

An MCC member for many years, he was regularly to be found in his favourite corner seat in front of the Lord's Pavilion — and on reaching his 88th birthday, he solemnly informed club officials he was actually 90, at which age a guest reception is traditionally laid on for the guest of honour. Sadly he was too ill to benefit from his initiative.

In 1948 Eric Barton married Irina Rowlands-Wifbeach, a resilient and vivacious personality who was to present for many the friendly face of Baldur, customers of nervous disposition being known to spy out the land and visit the shop only when she was in charge. She and their two sons survive Barton; a daughter, Lisa, predeceased him.

ALFRED HERSHEY

Alfred Hershey, biochemist, died on May 22 aged 88. He was born on December 4, 1908.

A SCIENTIST whose work lay at the threshold of molecular genetics, Alfred Hershey was awarded a Nobel Prize for his study of the genetic structure of viruses.

A virus is a submicroscopic entity capable of reproducing itself only by invading — and usually by destroying — living cells. They are responsible for some of the most important medical conditions affecting man from Aids to polio, from flu to yellow fever.

Virtually nothing was known about these organisms when Hershey began his investigations in 1940. Working jointly with the fellow American scientists, Max Delbrück and Salvador Luria, he conducted experiments on bacteriophages (viruses that prey on bacteria) to elucidate many of the principles of viral action, earning himself and his two colleagues the nickname "The Phages".

Bacteriophages (phages) have, like all viruses, a core of DNA inside a protein shell. When this virus invades a bacterial cell it forces it to relinquish its usual functions and produce phages instead. What Hershey showed, in 1952, was that when it invades, the phage loses its protein shell. It was DNA alone which changed the host cell's genetic make-up.

This was a ground-breaking discovery which tied in with the research being carried out at that time by James Watson and Francis Crick, who were shortly to present their double-helix model of DNA. It was also of great relevance to health and medicine. Further

research was soon to reveal that phages carried genetic information that could create bacterial drug resistance and could be transmitted from one bacterium to another. This became central to concerns about failure of drugs and about disease control.

Alfred Day Hershey read biology at Michigan University and went on, in 1934, to take a PhD in microbiology. He taught for some years at the University of Washington, St Louis.

In the early 1940s Hershey began discussing phage research with Delbrück and Laria, and by the end of the decade he and others were able to provide a genetic description of the phage chromosome.

In 1962 Hershey was appointed director of the genetical research unit at the Cold Spring Harbour laboratory where he had carried out much of his earlier work. He retired in 1974.

During his research career he received many awards, including the Albert Lasker Award and the Kimber Genetics Award of the American National Academy of Sciences. In 1969 he and Delbrück and Laria received the Nobel Prize.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 13th June 1997 at 14.30 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting. A list of names and addresses of the above companys' creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, Po Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 27th May 1997.
T J F Fenwick - Director.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 13th June 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting. A list of names and addresses of the above companys' creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, Po Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 27th May 1997.
M V Burridge - Director.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 22 May 1997, I, SURJIT KUMAR SINGLA of Singla & Company, 6-7 Queen Street, London, EC4N 1SP was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company by the members and creditors.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ON THIS DAY

June 2, 1925

"The wireless" enormously widened the horizons of millions of people. There was the chance to hear music, church services, talks and debates, but transmitting humour when the comedian had no immediate audience, and was "invisible", presented problems

BROADCASTING.
THE PROGRAMMES.
DIFFICULTY ABOUT HUMOUR.

It is one of the characteristics of broadcasting that humour comes with difficulty over the wireless waves, and that in the process it loses something of its flavour. There are reasons enough for this that have been hinted at. Half the humour of the comedian is in his face. Many a song that wakes boisterous laughter would doubtless sound rather flat if, though heard in a theatre or music hall, it were sung from behind a screen. Moreover, the comedian, more than any other actor, requires the inspiration of present appreciation; jokes are apt to fail, and humour is likely to wither without the nourishment of laughter. Hence it is humour of a very special sort that is wanted for boradcasting — humour that exists in what is said or sung and in the intonation of a voice, humour that can live without atmosphere and does not need the reinforcement of antics or eyebrows. Mr. Milton Hayes is an example of the comedian who is as successful when broadcasting as when appearing on the stage. His speeches had addresses, compounded of sentences that never end and of aspirations that have no point or purpose, sound irresistibly droll when they are transmitted. He is a comedian who does not need "to wait for the laugh." But his style cannot easily be copied, which is unfortuante for listeners generally. Mr. John Henry, some particulars of whose plans for the immediate future appear in another column, depends for his effects almost wholly on matter and inflexion of voice; hence the popularity of his broadcast performances. On the whole, then, it would appear that, until some very great advance is made in transmission, comedy, used in the stage application of the word, will lend itself but ill to broadcasting, and that while the listener will not lose very much of the performance when hearing and not seeing, say, Mr. John Coates, he will certainly miss a great deal of it in hearing and not seeing, say, Mr. Leslie Henson. Broadcasting, having already created a wholly new vocation, will probably bring into being a new genus of comedians. It is to be hoped that the event will not long be deferred, for it is on the lighter side that the broadcast entertainments appear at present to require most strengthening.

DEBATE BETWEEN MR. SHAW AND MR. BELLOC

Mr. George Bernard Shaw and Mr. Hilaire Belloc will take part in a debate on "What is Coming" at the Savoy Theatre on June 9. Mr J. C. Squire will preside. The debate, which will be broadcast, has been organized by the London School of Economics.

Experiments are now in hand in connexion with broadcasting the "Flying Scotsman" on June 30. Investigations are being made to ascertain where it would be possible, by means of a portable transmitter, to transmit from the footplate of the engine, but the whole proceeding is subject to permission being obtained from the Postmaster-General.

THE TIMES TODAY

MONDAY JUNE 2 1997

NEWS

French Left romps home

■ The Left won a convincing victory in the French parliamentary elections, overturning the massive majority enjoyed by the Centre-Right and ushering in an unpredictable era of power-sharing between a Socialist-led government and the conservative President Chirac.

Moments after voting ended, the polling organisation CSA predicted that the combined Left, made up of Socialists, Communists and other left-wing parties, would win about 310 seats in the 577-seat parliament.......Pages 1, 10

Loyalist mob kills RUC officer

■ An off-duty police constable was beaten to death by a loyalist mob outside a public house in Ballymoney, Co Antrim. Later the IRA ended a month-long unofficial ceasefire by abandoning a van with 1,000lb of explosives in West Belfast.......Page 1

Girl safe at last

A girl aged two is expected to be reunited with her British parents today after being abandoned in the chaos of the evacuation of Sierra Leone.......Pages 1, 12

Tory battle

Rivalry between Baroness Thatcher and Michael Heseltine, who ended her reign as Prime Minister, reignited in the battle for the Tory leadership.....Page 2

Goldsmith ill

Sir James Goldsmith, the billionaire businessman who founded the Referendum Party, is critically *ill with cancer in hospital near* Paris.......Page 3

Famine apology

Tony Blair has moved to heal one of the greatest wounds in Anglo-Irish history by criticising Britain for allowing a million people to die in the Great Famine.. Page 4

Reading dreams

A psychotherapist is categorising dreams in the hope that they may diagnose disease or predict birth and death. He has collected more than 200 dreams linked to physical conditions after asking people for their experiences.......Page 5

School fund

England's largest independent day school is building up a fund of £10 million to cover the fees of every pupil from a deprived background who passes its entrance examination.......Page 6

D. H. Lawrence letters

Letters to a close friend in which D.H. Lawrence expresses despair at the controversy surrounding *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and rage at the censoring of his paintings is to be sold.......Page 8

Vaccine law cases

Parents of children who became brain-damaged after routine vaccinations are to sue drug companies in an effort to gain more compensation than the £30,000 maximum permitted.......Page 9

Rome crisis

Italy's Albanian policy was in *disarray following the abrupt res*ignation of its newly nominated Ambassador to Tirana and controversy over a "Commissioner Extraordinary".......Page 10

German budget row

The Bonn Government showed signs of serious strain as power brokers met to find a way out of the financial crisis.......Page 11

£3 billion lawsuit

A landmark case in which a Mormon air stewardess is suing Philip Morris for £3 billion for injury suffered through passive smoking in flight cabins begins today in Florida.......Page 13

Afghanistan retreat

Taleban's rout from northern Afghanistan — it has retreated 120 miles south in six days — marks the collapse of an elaborate gameplan by Pakistan.......Page 14

The office bully goes electronic

■ The office bully has found a powerful new way to make his underlings feel small — electronic mail. Sophisticated systems designed to ease communication in the office are being used to hector and harass, a survey has shown. More than half of those responding said thay had been the unwilling recipients of abusive messages, nearly always from male bosses.......Page 3

PAOLO COCCO

Priests waiting in Wroclaw yesterday to greet the Pope who is making an emotional 11-day visit to his homeland. Page 13

Europe: Brussels is proposing far-reaching extensions of Europe's powers over jobs in new plans for employment tabled for the EU summit in Amsterdam.......Page 48

Halifax: Nearly eight million people will share in a £17 billion financial bonanza today when the Halifax Building Society floats on the stock market and becomes a bank.......Page 48

Mining: Gencor, the South African mining giant, is considering a £5 billion-plus demerger involving the flotation of a new mining company on the London Exchange.......Page 48

Defence: Tony Blair is believed to be negotiating a deal with Germany over two military aircraft developments which could create 57,000 jobs.......Page 45

Melvyn Bragg: "If you are interested in the roots of our language and what we nourish from the past, I suggest you tighten your seatbelts".......Page 18

Good start: The Royal Opera launches this year's Verdi Festival in grand style, with Sir Georg Solti conducting Elijah Moshinsky's *Simon Boccanegra*.......Page 18

Fitting revival: Scottish Opera revives David Pountney's now well-nigh definitive production of Janáček's *Cunning Little Vixen*.......Page 18

Broadway export: That vintage American baseball musical, *Damn Yankees*, is back in London in a Broadway production that hopes to find a sympathetic audience in the West End.......Page 19

Downshifting's downside": On day one of our new series, Grace Bradberry reports on what really happens when you opt for the simple life.......Page 16

Riddled with guilt: "The suffering I have caused will not leave me alone. Wouldn't you feel guilty if, as a Catholic bishop in your mid-50s, you had allowed this to happen?" Bill Frost talks to the disgraced former Roman Catholic Bishop of Argyll.......Page 17

Hurricane secrets: Scientists have found that the warmer the sea, the more frequent the hurricanes. Anjana Ahuja reports.......Page 15

Science briefing: Can radiation be good for us?.......Page 15

Football: Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, predicts "a titanic battle" when his team takes on Italy in their World Cup qualifying match next October.......Pages 25, 27

Cricket: Mark Butcher, the opener, will make his debut and Devon Malcolm, the fast bowler, looks certain to play for England again in the Ashes series.......Pages 28-30

Rugby Union: Mike Catt, the stand-off half, has been called up from England's tour of Argentina to play for the British Lions in South Africa. He will replace the injured Paul Grayson.......Page 31

Golf: Ross McFarlane, of Manchester, won his first European Tour event after 11 barren years when he took the Deutsche Bank Open in Hamburg.......Page 32

Rowing: Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent kept their five-year unbeaten record intact when they won another title — with their two new crew men — in the World Cup in Munich.......Page 32

Racing: André Fabre, Europe's outstanding trainer, gained his first success in the French Derby when Peintre Celebre stormed home at Chantilly.......Page 40

IN THE TIMES

■ ARTS
Paintings galore:
the 229th edition of
the Royal Academy's
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A 24-page colour
guide to all
that's best at the
London June fairs

LOTTERY NUMBERS

2, 5, 9, 28, 29, 45. Bonus: 49. Five tickets win £1,448,508 each; 24 win £92,853 for five numbers and the bonus; 1,176 win £1,184 for five; 69,065 win £44 for four; 1,245,805 win £10 for three.

Preview: A bank manager is not sure of his credit rating: *The Peter Principle* (BBC1, 8.30 pm) **Review:** Matthew Bond says Channel 5 failed to score.......Page 47

France turns left

France would not today be poised to take a giant step into the past, had M Chirac not led the Right's parliamentary majority into battle on ground it should never have picked.......Page 21

Back to back to basics

It is difficult to envisage how welfare reform could succeed without some element of compulsion and the threat that benefit would be curtailed.......Page 21

Green figures

That evergreen and hardy perennial radio programme *Gardeners' Question Time* is celebrating its goldenrod jubilee.......Page 21

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

John Major's leadership, like that of George Bush, always had a problem with "the vision thing". His followers asked for inspiration; he fed them fudge.......Page 20

TIMOTHY GARTON ASH

Markus Wolf is charming, well-dressed, thoughtful, he is quite unlike all the other pot-bellied, narrow-minded, philistine Stasi officers whom I have tracked down to gloomy bungalows.......Page 20

PETER RIDDELL

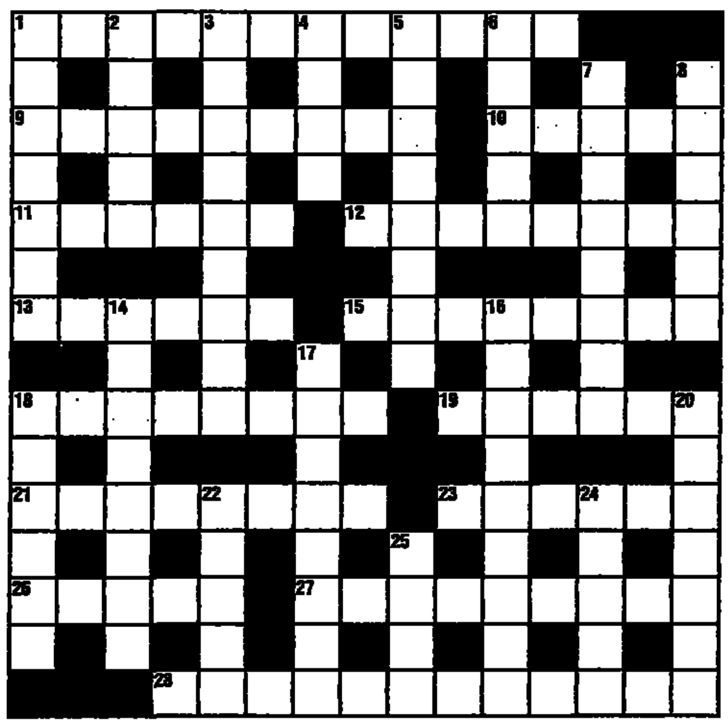
Forget the international solidarity of the Left. The French election results are bad news for Tony Blair.......Page 20

Nikolai Tikhonov, Soviet Prime Minister; **Eric Barton**, bookseller; **Alfred Hershey**, Nobel prizewinning biochemist.......Page 23

Northern Ireland; Nato agreement; Halifax Building Society.......Page 21

Chancellor Kohl's tears were also tears for the great and courageous project for European economic and monetary union. The fate of perhaps also the entire governing political class of Europe depends on a project which now finds itself in extreme difficulty
— *La Stampa*, Rome

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,495



ACROSS

1 Like registered member of club, say, concerned about transport (4-8).
9 Armed unit holding back gunners obtaining medals, perhaps (9).
10 Son tucked into grub in temporary accommodation (5).
11 Not appearing to have an ability to absorb science initially (6).
12 Peacemakers left dreadful criminal (8).
13 One who prevents front coming off hat (6).
15 Made unauthorised collection and put a bit on a horse (8).
18 Massage back wound – result of explosion (8).
19 Scholar meeting master primarily to express disapproval of cane (6).
21 Reject blue act to open with (4,4).
23 Smart belt he put on cloak (6).
26 It can be a crime to smuggle in a foreigner (5).
27 Got back from hide in the long grass (9).
28 Coming back to harvest fruit given a half-chance (12).

DOWN

1 Company Law restricting member's deal (7).
2 Down under, sport is dominant (5).
3 Thrash in convincing way to show relationship between two sides (9).
4 Right time to get up, though unusual (4).
5 Poor granny that is suffering an ache (8).
6 Spoiled Roman girl (5).
7 Beat up and beat again – with a spoon, perhaps? (4,4).
8 Unemotional team-leader in firm (6).
14 Someone's picture – seaside artist takes it (8).
16 Nationalist seen to lose resolution – doubly so (4-5).
17 Flower or plant seen around north before fall (8).
18 Take chance with fish shop (6).
20 Completed fitting, and not before time (7).
22 Concentrated English studies put over (5).
24 One taking part in revolution in European city (5).
25 Long established in bachelorhood (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,494 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20 book token.

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 4.48 am
Sun sets: 9.09 pm
Moon sets 5.45 pm
Moon rises 3.33 am

New moon June 5
London 9.09 pm to 4.48 am
Bristol 9.19 pm to 4.58 am
Edinburgh 9.48 pm to 4.33 am
Manchester 9.29 pm to 4.45 am
Penzance 9.24 pm to 5.16 am

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales mostly dry and fairly sunny, but southern counties, especially southwest, may have showers later. Quite warm in sheltered western spots, but the northeast wind, strong in the south, will keep eastern coasts rather chilly.

Mist and low cloud will cover the Northern Isles for much of the time, and some eastern coasts briefly, but, for the most part, Scotland and Northern Ireland will be dry and sunny. Warm in the sheltered west, but remain cool in the east and where low cloud persists.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, SW England, Ch'l Is:** Sunny spells; cloud bubbling up, chance of a shower later. Wind NE fresh or strong. Max 17C to 19C (63F to 66F).

☐ **E Anglia, E, NE England:** Dry with long sunny spells. Wind NE moderate or fresh. Max 17C (63F), but cooler on coast.

☐ **Midlands, Wales, NW, Cent N England:** Dry. Long sunny spells. Wind NE mod or fresh. Max 18C to 20C (64F to 68F).

☐ **Lakes, IoM, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** Dry and mostly sunny. Wind NE light or moderate. Max 15C to 18C (59F to 64F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** Patchy low cloud on coasts, otherwise sunny spells. Wind northeast mainly moderate. Max 13C to 15C (55F to 59F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** Mist and low cloud. Local sunny intervals. Wind northeast mainly moderate. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** Mostly dry and sunny. Showers possible in south, drizzle in north.

☐ **Pollen:** low in Scotland, N. Ireland, NE England, London; low to moderate in NW, SW, SE, Cent S England, Wales, E Anglia, England; moderate in Midlands.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

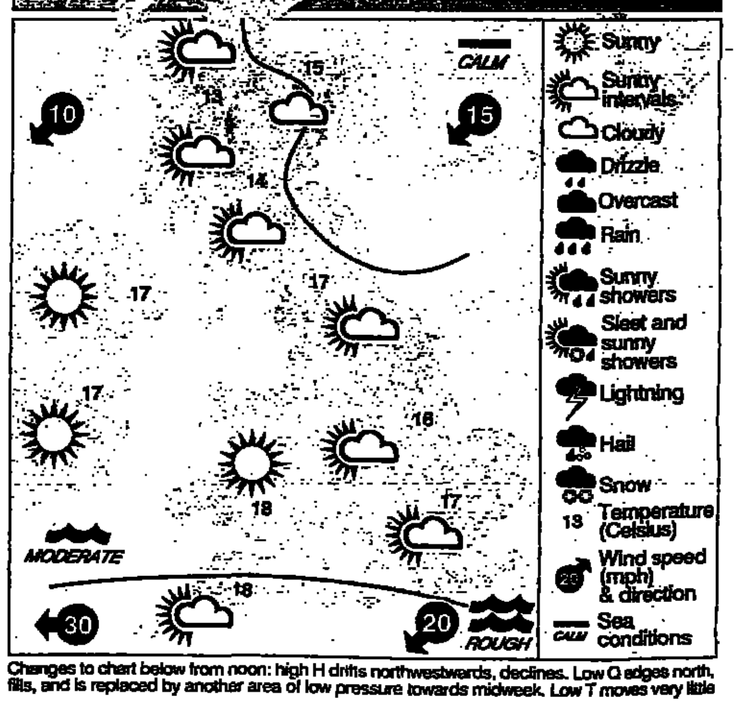
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	10.0	-	15	59	s	Jersey	13.6	-	17	63	s
Anglesey	14.8	-	19	66	s	Leeds	13.4	-	19	66	s
Aspatria	13.8	-	20	68	s	Lerwick	6.6	0.01	13	55	s
Aviemore	12.3	-	21	70	s	Leuchars	8.9	0.01	13	55	s
Belfast	15.1	-	19	66	s	Littlehmptn	15.5	-	17	63	g
Birmingham	15.2	-	19	66	s	London	15.2	-	19	66	s
Bognor R	14.8	-	18	64	s	Lowestoft	12.0	-	15	59	s
Bournem'th	15.0	-	21	70	s	Manchester	15.1	-	19	66	s
Bristol	14.8	-	20	68	s	Margate	14.3	-	15	59	s
Buxton	12.5	-	16	61	c	Morecambe	11.5	-	20	68	s
Cardiff	16.0	-	19	66	s	Newcastle	10.1	-	17	63	s
Clacton	15.5	-	15	59	s	Newquay	14.7	-	21	70	s
Colwyn Bay	13.2	-	19	66	s	Norwich	14.3	-	15	59	s
Cromer	14.9	-	14	57	s	Prestatyn	X	-	23	73	s
Dunbar	9.8	0.01	13	55	s	Ross-o-wye	14.8	-	20	68	s
Eastbourne	14.5	-	17	63	c	Salcombe	14.4	-	17	63	s
Edinburgh	10.2	0.01	14	57	s	Saunton Snd	14.6	-	20	68	s
Eskdalemuir	12.8	0.01	18	64	s	Shanklin	14.6	-	17	63	s
Exmouth	15.3	-	21	70	s	Shrewsbury	15.1	-	19	66	s
Falmouth	14.0	-	18	64	s	Skegness	14.6	-	19	66	s
Fishguard	13.8	-	20	68	s	Southend	15.0	-	18	64	s
Folkestone	15.1	-	17	63	s	Southport	12.6	-	20	68	s
Glasgow	12.3	-	19	66	s	Stornoway	14.1	-	16	61	s
Guernsey	13.5	-	17	63	s	Swanage	13.3	-	17	63	s
Hastings	15.1	-	17	63	s	Tenby	14.2	-	20	68	s
Hayling I.	14.5	-	19	66	s	Tiree	12.5	-	17	63	s
Herne Bay	4.2	-	16	61	s	Torquay	14.8	-	20	68	s
Hove	X	-	18	64	s	Tynemouth	-	-	13	55	s
Hunstanton	X	-	15	59	s	Ventnor	14.7	-	17	63	s
Isle of Man	14.5	-	19	66	s	West-s-mare	13.5	-	20	68	s

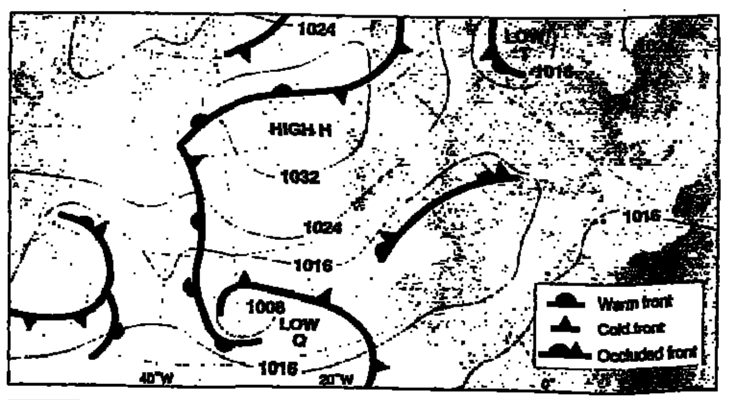
ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	23	73	s	C'phagn	13	55	s	Malaga	23	73	f	S Paulo	16	61	c
Akrotiri	22	72	s	Dublin	19	66	s	Malta	24	75	s	Salzburg	14	57	f
Alex'dria	26	79	s	Dubrovnik	19	66	s	Melb'rne	12	54	f	Santiago	13	55	f
Algiers	22	72	c	Faro	21	70	f	Mexico C	23	73	s	Seoul	24	75	s
Amst'dm	18	64	s	Florence	26	79	f	Miami	30	86	s	Sing'por	33	91	f
Athens	21	70	f	Frankfurt	17	63	s	Milan	22	72	f	St'kholm	14	57	s
B Aires	19	66	f	Funchal	22	72	f	Montreal	21	70	s	Strasb'rg	19	66	s
Bahrain	41	106	s	Geneva	17	63	s	Moscow	15	59	f	Sydney	15	59	s
Bangkok	33	91	s	Gibraltar	24	75	s	Munich	15	59	s	Tangier	21	70	c
Barbados	30	86	f	Helsinki	19	66	s	N Delhi	29	84	f	Tel Aviv	27	81	s
Barcelona	22	72	f	Hong K	30	86	f	N York	21	70	s	Tenerife	23	73	s
Beirut	25	77	f	Innsbrck	18	64	s	Nairobi	22	72	c	Tokyo	24	75	c
Belgrade	11	52	f	Istanbul	15	59	f	Naples	25	77	s	Toronto	20	68	f
Berlin	13	55	f	Jeddah	36	97	s	Nice	22	72	f	Tunis	28	82	s
Bermuda	26	79	f	Jo'burg	11	52	s	Oslo	19	66	f	Valencia	20	68	f
Biarritz	22	72	f	Karachi	X			Paris	21	70	s	Vanc'ver	16	61	c
Borde'x	27	81	f	L Angels	24	75	s	Peking	21	70	c	Venice	19	66	f
Brussels	17	63	s	L Palmas	23	73	f	Perth	16	61	f	Vienna	11	52	f
Budapst	12	54	r	Le Tquet	21	70	s	Prague	11	52	f	Warsaw	12	54	c
Cairo	33	91	s	Lisbon	21	70	f	Reykjavik	11	52	d	Wash'ton	26	79	f
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Locarno	20	68	s	Rhodes	22	72	s	Wel'ngton	16	61	X
Ch'church	17	63	X	Luxembg	17	63	s	Rio de J	22	72	f	Zurich	17	63	s
Chicago	19	66	s	Luxor	39	102	s	Riyadh	40	104	s				
Cologne	16	61	s	Madrid	16	61	f	Rome	23	73	s				
Corfu	21	70	s	Majorca	25	77	f	S Fr'isco	23	73	s				

Temperatures at midday on Saturday local time. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: high H drifts northwestwards, declines. Low Q edges north, fills, and is replaced by another area of low pressure towards midweek. Low T moves very little



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	-	-	12.23	7.0	Leith	00.45	5.1	13.04	5.2
Aberdeen	11.49	3.9	-	-	Liverpool	09.33	8.8	22.08	8.8
Avonmouth	05.21	12.1	17.51	12.1	Lowestoft	08.08	2.3	19.57	2.3
Belfast	09.21	3.3	21.58	3.3	Margate	10.31	4.4	22.36	4.4
Cardiff	05.07	11.2	17.37	11.2	Milford Haven	04.25	6.3	16.57	6.3
Devonport	03.50	5.1	16.27	5.1	Newquay	03.23	6.3	16.53	6.4
Dover	09.30	6.1	21.50	6.3	Oban	04.23	3.5	16.49	3.3
Dublin (N Wall)	10.02	4.0	22.43	4.0	Penzance	02.50	5.1	15.23	5.0
Falmouth	03.21	4.9	15.58	4.9	Portland	04.34	1.7	17.10	1.8
Greenock	10.54	3.2	23.17	3.1	Portsmouth	09.46	4.3	22.16	4.5
Harwich	10.12	3.8	22.30	3.7	Shoreham	09.35	5.8	22.02	5.9
Holyhead	08.40	5.3	21.18	5.2	Southampton	09.07	4.2	21.37	4.5
Hull (Albert D)	04.44	8.0	16.51	8.3	Swansea	04.33	8.7	17.03	8.7
Ilfracombe	04.11	8.4	16.41	8.4	Tees	01.52	5.0	14.06	5.1
King's Lynn	04.52	5.9	16.56	6.1	Walton-on-N	10.08	4.0	22.25	3.9

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Prestatyn, Denbighshire, 23C (73F); lowest day max: Baita Sound, Shetland, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: None measurable; highest sunshine: Cardiff, 16.0hr.

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TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

TIME TO DELIVER
Gough leads England's attack in the first Test at Edgbaston
PAGE 29

ANYONE FOR CROQUET?
An old favourite makes a comeback
PAGE 39

FROM CATT TO LION
England win and lose in Argentina
PAGE 31

PARIS MATCH
Steffi Graf made to fight in French Open PAGE 33

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JUNE 2 1997

SHEARER AND SHER[illegible] PREPARE TEAM FOR TH[illegible]

Sheringham, who scored England's second goal in the closing seconds of the match in Katowice, celebrates the 2-0 victory over Poland which put England back on track for the World Cup finals. Photographs: Neal Simpson

Hoddle maps Roman road

By Oliver Holt
Football Correspondent

THE plane carrying the celebrating England team home was still on the ground at Katowice airport in the early hours of yesterday morning when a familiar voice crackled over the intercom. "We are about to take off," Paul Gascoigne said. "Fasten your seat belts and sail on England. Take care."

England's spirits were already soaring by then anyway, hurtling towards orbit after bravura performances from Alan Shearer, whose strength, pace and guile overwhelmed the Poles in the first half, Paul Ince and Gareth Southgate in particular had inspired them to become the first England team for 31 years to win on Polish soil.

Their 2-0 win over Poland in the tribal atmosphere of the Slaski Stadium on Saturday night, courtesy of two more goals from Shearer and Teddy Sheringham, brought to an end more than three months of self-doubt inflicted by the home defeat to Italy in February. Suddenly the optimism that was rife during Euro 96 *is with us again.*

England will probably still have to beat Moldova at Wembley on September 10 and Italy in Rome a month later to qualify at the top of group two. But they are now comfortably clear of Belgium in the race for the leading runners-up position that would also guarantee them qualification for the World Cup finals in France next year.

Yesterday morning, when the plane landed back at Luton Airport, Hoddle and his players were already talking up a scenario in which Italy might fail to secure a win in Georgia in the autumn, leaving England needing only a draw in the Eternal City in October to qualify outright.

What is clear, though, amid all the permutations, is that that return match in Rome's Olympic Stadium will be a mighty showdown. It is not, though, a match that Hoddle fears. "As long as we stay professional against Moldova," Hoddle said, "it is going to be a titanic battle in Rome. That was what was so *pleasing about our performance* here because the closer you get to that ultimate game a little bit of tension can start to creep in.

"I have had a gut feeling for a long time that it would go to Rome and I think Italy will find themselves facing a very different England to the one they beat at Wembley. We have had three away wins in this qualifying campaign and that is something that has to make our younger players *grow up.*

"You have to remember that, for the two years before I took over, they were playing friendlies at Wembley, nothing that would prepare them for the sort of pressure here tonight. "We will not fear going across there needing to get a result. It is a game that all the players in this team would relish."

England have now scored seven goals in their three qualifying games abroad without conceding one and Hoddle said that they had been working on perfecting the swiftest of counter-attacking techniques in training with drills where the team had to score within ten seconds of winning the ball.

That perfection of the best methods of containment and counter-attack and the 3-5-2 system that Hoddle favours and works so well away from home will help England's cause immeasurably in Rome especially if Italy have suffered a setback in Georgia.

More than that, though, England's confidence seems at last to be growing with every game, aided by familiarity with each other and with the methods of Hoddle. The nagging scepticism about the coach's talents is being swept away.

In that light, it was symbolic, that Southgate, aided by the fierce determination of Gary Neville and the growing poise of Sol Campbell, should produce his best performance on Saturday since his appearance against Germany in the Euro 96 semi-final.

"Personally, I think I have been desperate to try to do everything I can to redeem myself," Southgate said, "but there is really no way you can do that. It is past. I do not think you can ever really lay that ghost but it was important for me to show people *tonight that I could play with* more confidence.

"This match meant such a lot to everybody because it was such an important result in terms of the group. Sometimes, like after the defeat to Italy, we go overboard and panic. But the system we play is suited to away games. Going to Rome will not be easy. We have got to respect them but fearing them would be the wrong thing to do."

Back to the future *27*
Poles caught cold *27*
Scotland win *27*

ENGLAND'S ROUTE TO FRANCE 1998

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	6	5	1	0	11	1	16
England	6	5	0	1	11	2	15
Poland	5	1	1	3	3	8	4
Georgia	3	0	0	3	0	5	0
Moldova	4	0	0	4	2	11	0

RESULTS: Moldova 0 England 3; Moldova 1 Italy 3; England 2 Poland 1; Italy 1 Georgia 0; Georgia 0 England 2; Poland 2 Moldova 1; England 0 Italy 1; Italy 3 Moldova 0; Poland 0 Italy 0; Italy 3 Poland 0; England 2 Georgia 0, Poland *0 England 2.*

MATCHES TO COME: June 7: Georgia v Moldova. June 14: Poland v Georgia. Sept 10: England v Moldova; Georgia v Italy. Sept 24: Moldova v Georgia. Oct 7: Moldova v Poland. Oct 11: Italy v England; Georgia v Poland.

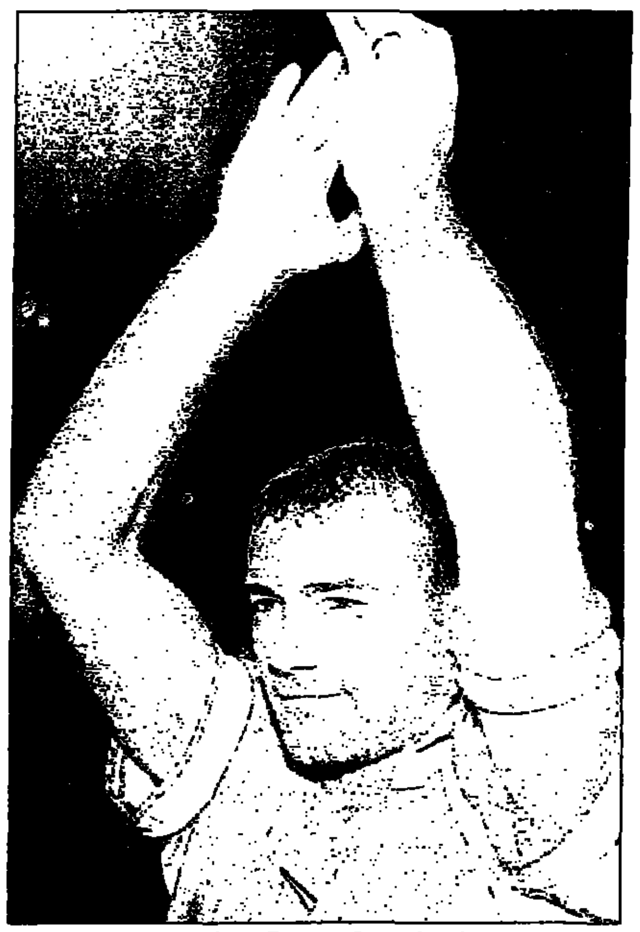
RUNNERS-UP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 England [2]	5	4	0	1	8	2	12
2 Belgium [7]	4	3	0	1	7	6	9
3 Greece [1]	5	2	1	2	6	4	7
4 Yugoslavia [6]	4	2	1	1	4	4	7
5 Austria [4]	4	2	1	1	3	3	7
6 Switzerland [3]	3	2	0	1	4	3	6
7 Russia [5]	3	1	2	0	6	2	5
8 Germany [9]	3	1	2	0	3	1	5
9 Ireland [8]	3	1	0	2	5	4	3

Figures in brackets are qualifying group

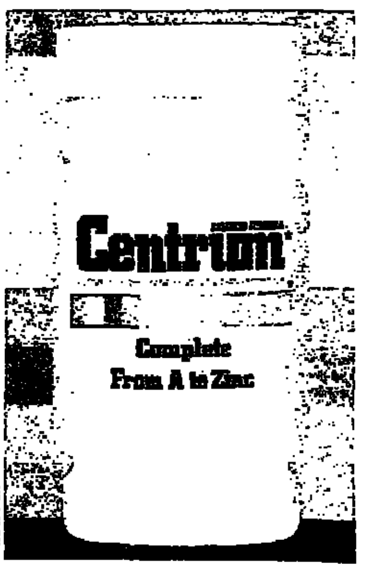
☐ Records based on results against first, third and fourth-placed teams in respective groups

☐ Yugoslavia are above Austria by virtue of having scored more away goals



Shearer, scorer of the first goal, applauds supporters

T'S 100%. A vitamin



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Scott suffers during rough channel crossing

MATTHEW BOND

◆

TV ACTION REPLAY

Lesson one is easy: if Channel 5 ever throws another party in a television studio, the presenter and guests must be placed in a separate, sound-proof booth. Soap opera stars and page-three girls, like small children, should be seen but not heard — not while there's World Cup football on, anyway.

Lesson two is pretty straightforward, too. If live sport is to be an irregular event in the schedule, as it seems destined to be on Channel 5, by all means make your presentation style conspicuously different, but for goodness sake have the courage of your convictions. Embrace a laddish mix of betting, birds and booze, but do not ask the middle-aged and polite Brough Scott to be your anchorman. It is difficult to imagine that his broadcasting career will ever contain a more uncomfortable seven hours.

He was at his best at the beginning, when he confidently promised "a unique programme of sport". Not wrong, was he? As a bewildering array of reporters flashed before us (one or two of whom, I'm sure, we never saw again), the slightly annoying Adam Darke, in Katowice, tried a bit of cod-Polish. "Smart-arse," Scott responded dismissively, speaking for us all for perhaps the only time all evening.

That, however, was the high point, with the hugely experienced Scott getting inexplicably worse as the evening went on. By half-time he had the haunted look of a man who had forgotten to write his Autocue script. By the time the rugby came on he was virtually incoherent. "From all of us here . . ." he began as yet another commercial break loomed, ". . . stay with us in a couple of minutes' time." It's not often I feel sorry for a professional broadcaster, but this was one such occasion.

Lesson three, however, is to look at what worked, which was quite a lot. Alex Rudzinski, the director, was impressively on top of his technology. Getting reporters in Katowice talking to presenters in Southampton is far harder than it appears and Rudzinski managed it without a single finger in the ear or "say that again". Apart from a surreal quarter-second, when an empty ice rink appeared on our screens, and the satellite failure which cut off Glenn Hoddle in his post-match prime, it was an impressively hiccup-free performance. The pictures provided by Polish television were unexpectedly good, too.

Jonathan Pearce also made a reasonable debut as a television commentator. True, he talked far too much and was partisan to a degree that would have caused apoplexy at the BBC, but, with one or two forgivable exceptions, he steered clear of the theatrical set-pieces that have made him such a cult figure on commercial radio. Alongside him, Phil Thompson, the former Liverpool defender, struggled to get a meaningful word in.

Back in the studio, the man coping best with the distractions of deafening background noise, uncooperative replays and a host who had lost all track of what passed as a coherent question, was Joe Royle. Nobody seemed to have told him where the replay monitor was, but when the satellite link finally went down it was Royle, rather than Scott, who extemporised with most authority.

The rugby, when it finally arrived, was almost a farce. Billed as having commentary by Chris Rea, Scott nervously handed over to somebody called Chris Maune. A caption confused the picture further by telling us that commentary was being provided Andy Copastagno. It didn't much matter — whoever it was using a Buenos Aires telephone box as a commentary position was virtually indecipherable.

Given that the whole match was recorded and the final score was already on Ceefax at kick-off, the apologies flashed up at regular intervals seemed totally inadequate. There was worse to come. After 12 minutes of the first half, Scott suddenly appeared again — not to grovel about the sound, but to chew the fat with Nigel Melville, Jeff Probyn and Victor Ubogu and to take another commercial break. The pattern was repeated in the second half. Live on Five? I don't think so.

ATHLETICS

Mackie quick to impress despite missing record

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

WHILE the athletics world focused its attention on American sprinters and African middle-distance runners over the weekend, British athletes went about their business quietly, but effectively. They competed not as they will at the European Cup three weeks hence, as one committed army, but as fragmented units, their fighting strength looking none the weaker for being splintered.

While the European Cup captains led by example, Linford Christie winning a 100 metres race in Hengelo, Holland, and Sally Gunnell a 400 metres hurdles in Bedford, there was a good deal more from which to draw encouragement.

Steve Backley and Jonathan Edwards made winning starts to the season in Riga, Latvia; Jon Brown, in Hengelo, leapfrogged David Bedford and Brendan Foster to record the second fastest 10,000 metres by a Briton, and Ian Mackie ran a 150 metres in Cardiff that would not have been sniffed at by those in Toronto last night for the Michael Johnson-Donovan Bailey match over that distance.

Mackie recorded 14.99sec and, if spectators were disappointed that Frankie Fredericks did not keep his date to run, the young Scot had greater reason to feel regret. Mackie, whose victory over Christie in Sheffield last August strengthened Britain's faith that it possesses a rising 100 metres talent, would be celebrating a landmark had Fredericks been there.

Unchallenged, Mackie eased up towards the finish, a luxury he would have denied himself had the Namibian been in close proximity. Mackie's early removal of his foot from the accelerator cost him the British best mark, held by Christie.

Christie, in the first of two victories over Bailey at 150 metres, recorded 14.97sec in Sheffield three years ago. "If I had known how close I was to the record I would not have stepped off the gas," Mackie said. "It is a bad habit which I have got to stop."

Mackie, 22, from Dunfermline, is a former world junior championships bronze medal-winner at 200 metres. Although he enjoyed the benefit of a slight tailwind in Cardiff, his performance is given greater currency for the fact that Patrick Stevens, of Belgium, Europe's No 1 senior 200 metres runner, was well beaten into second place.

Results 35

Jamie Baulch, after setting a British indoor record for 400 metres last winter, continues to make strides. Baulch won the 300 metres at Cardiff in 32.06sec, a time that only John Regis, among Britons, has bettered. However, Colin Jackson's form remains a concern. Jackson barely broke 14 seconds for the 110 metres hurdles, although he won.

Britain's other former world champion hurdler, Gunnell, also has time to make up, but her comfort on Saturday was in knowing that she completed her first 400 metres hurdles since she came to grief at the Olympics last summer. A time of 56.07sec is more than three seconds outside her best.

Brown, unlike most leading British athletes, is not looking towards the world championships in Athens. Though he made the final of the 10,000 metres at the 1996 Olympics, his wife is due to give birth around the time of the British trials and, furthermore, he wants to attempt his first marathon. Though there is never a guarantee that a quick 10,000 metres athlete will make a marathon runner, Brown's 27min 27.47sec in Hengelo will heighten expectation.

While Brown engaged in a tactical race with a group of Africans, he gave little thought to the British record of 27min 23.06sec, set by Eamonn Martin in 1988. The Briton kicked with 550 metres to go, but Ayele Mezegebu, from Ethiopia, came past 200 metres from home to win in 27min 25.01sec. Brown believes 2hr 08min is within his range when he makes his marathon debut in Chicago in October.

Christie's 100 metres victory, more impressive for it being over a strong field than for his time of 10.23sec, was matched by those of Backley, Edwards, Ashia Hansen and Iwan Thomas in Riga. Backley, with his longest throw for five years, sent the javelin 89.02 metres. Edwards began a season in which he defends his triple jump world title with a winning 17.21 metres; Hansen won the women's triple jump with 14.49 metres and Thomas the 400 metres in 45.48sec.

PHIL COLE / ALLSPORT

Gebrselassie powers away on his own en route to breaking the world two-mile record

Bannister impressed by Gebrselassie's gifts

By David Powell

DANIEL KOMEN had never heard of Sir Roger Bannister until the subject of running two four-minute miles without a break came up last winter. Komen, referring to the prospect of breaking eight minutes for two miles, said he was keen "to put it in the history books", and politely inquired who Bannister was.

Now he may receive a personal introduction before the summer is out. Even before the spike marks of the failed $1 million Adidas challenge between Haile Gebrselassie and Noureddine Morceli in the Dutch town of Hengelo on Saturday have had time to heal, the talk is of matching Komen against Gebrselassie in Britain, with Bannister invited as a guest.

"I have spoken to Ian Stewart [Britain's head of events] and he is keen," Jos Hermens, Gebrselassie's manager, said. "I want to see those two guys doing the two miles in Britain, maybe after the world championships. I want to talk to Kim McDonald about it."

McDonald, Komen's manager, said that he was "open to any offers or ideas". He added, however, that it was more likely that Komen, whose 3,000 metres world record of 7min 20.67sec suggests that he should beat eight minutes comfortably, and Moses Kiptanui, his fellow Kenyan and the 3,000 metres steeplechase world record-holder, would try to break through the barrier prior to the world championships.

Hermens, who promoted the Hengelo meeting, had wanted Bannister, the world's first sub four-minute miler, as his guest starter but was unable to contact him. Bannister had been in the United States, returning only last Friday. Too late and probably just as well. The race was a huge anti-climax.

Gebrselassie improved the world best by more than two seconds, to 8min 01.08sec, yet the combination of missing the eight-minutes barrier and Morceli's failure to match him much beyond three laps brought a groan of disappointment. Hermens felt that the project failed because of poor pacemaking and because Morceli had come down from altitude in Albuquerque too close to the race.

Bannister, though he could not be there, followed the event with interest. He concurred with the point made by Hermens, that by the time Gebrselassie had recognised Morceli was not up to it, and the pacemakers had been found wanting, the Ethiopian was left with too much to do. When Bannister broke four minutes, he was without a pacemaker for only the last 230 yards. Gebrselassie was out on his own for some 1,500 yards.

"It takes quite a bit of doing to run a mile on your own," Bannister said. "It was a great run but it is not easy to predict these kind of records and no runner can control the wind." The wind was an opponent in Hengelo, as it had been in Oxford on May 6, 1954, when gusts before the race almost tempted Bannister against the effort.

What surprises Bannister is that Gebrselassie, 5ft 3in, and Morceli, 5ft 8in, should make mile and two-mile runners. Gebrselassie, the Olympic 10,000 metres champion, has demonstrated an extraordinary range. "It is amazing to me that they can run so fast over the shorter distances," Bannister said. "They are perfectly built. I would have thought, for 5,000 metres."

Bannister looked closely at Gebrselassie's foot plant and noticed an advantage. "His foot and heel are absolutely flat and that is something which I think that middle-distance runners did not used to accept. They felt they ran on the ball of the foot. The Africans roll back onto their heel midway through the stride and that causes a total relaxation of the leg."

Though Gebrselassie missed the $1 million for breaking eight minutes, his world best will earn a bonus. "We will try and do something for him," Hermens said.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Doohan widens the gap over Criville

MICHAEL DOOHAN, the three-times world champion, recorded his 38th World Motorcycling Championship victory at the Austrian Grand Prix in Zeltweg yesterday to take second place in the all-time list of 500cc winners. Only Giacomo Agostini, of Italy, is ahead of the Australian Honda rider, with 68 wins. "To have achieved 38 wins is fantastic but records are not important," Doohan, 31, said.

Doohan's fourth victory of the season extended his lead in the standings over Spanish team-mate Alex Criville to 31 points. Doohan is seeking to become only the third rider, after Agostini and Britain's Mike Hailwood, to win four successive titles. Criville finished a disappointing fifth yesterday. Tadayuki Okada of Japan, riding a Honda, was second, and Luca Cadalora, of Italy, on a Yamaha, third.

Baronti sprints away

CYCLING: Alessandro Baronti emerged from a tight, three-man sprint yesterday to claim the fifteenth stage of the Giro d'Italia, while Ivan Gotti retained the leader's pink jersey he had earned the day before. Baronti, of Italy, a member of the Panaria team, used a final burst of speed in the last 50 metres to overtake his countrymen, Filippo Casagrande and Paolo Savoldelli.

Baronti completed the 173 kilometres (107.3 miles) from Verres to Borgomanero in 4hr 29min 23sec. Gotti, trying to become the first Italian in six years to win the Giro, and Pavel Tonkov, his chief rival, finished about one minute behind. Gotti maintained his 51-second overall lead over the Russian, the 1996 champion, with seven stages left.

Woosnam the master

GOLF: Ian Woosnam, right, of Wales, claimed his second title in a week by defeating Sandy Lyle, of Scotland, in a two-hole sudden-death play-off in the Hyundai Motor Masters in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday. Both players made pars at the first hole and, at the second, they each hit approach shots to within 15 feet of the pin. However, only Woosnam sank his putt.

Monarchs undermined

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The slim hopes of London Monarchs reaching the World Bowl collapsed at Stamford Bridge yesterday, when poor kicking and a lack of offence led to a 13-9 defeat by Amsterdam Admirals. Scottish Claymores beat Frankfurt Galaxy 24-7 at Murrayfield, thanks to two touchdowns from Siran Stacey, to keep alive their hopes of retaining the title.

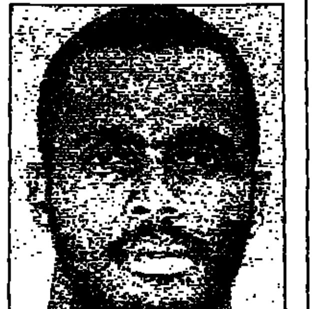
Toulouse just too good

RUGBY UNION: Christophe Deylaud, the former France stand-off half, kicked all Toulouse's points on Saturday as they lifted their fourth successive French title by beating Bourgoin 12-6. Deylaud kicked three penalties and a dropped goal. The result was a disappointment for Bourgoin captain Marc Cecillon, 38, capped 46 times, who had hoped to crown his career with the championship.

Tibbs topples Hobday

BOWLS: Martin Tibbs, Somerset's two-wood singles champion, defeated former world triples champion Jim Hobday in the semi-final of the City of Bath Open tournament yesterday, and then won the £500 prize by defeating Derek Southcombe 21-15 in the final. Jan Stern, of Amersham, retained the women's singles title, beating Nancy Davidson, of Ayre Rankiston, 21-16 in the final.

Walsh stays in charge



CRICKET: Ignoring calls to appoint Brian Lara as captain, the West Indies Cricket Board has retained Courtney Walsh, right, as West Indies captain for Sri Lanka's forthcoming Caribbean tour. Walsh, 34, who took over as captain from Richie Richardson after the World Cup last year, will lead West Indies in the two Tests and a limited-overs international.

Loram roars to victory

SPEEDWAY: Mark Loram won his first British championship at Coventry yesterday after a dramatic showdown with his childhood friend, Chris Louis. Loram and Louis, who both live in Ipswich, scored 14 points and went into a deciding run-off. Loram almost crashed on the first lap but recovered to storm past Louis at the start of the second lap. Louis regained the lead only for Loram to overtake again.

Joyful double for Hoy

EQUESTRIANISM: Andrew Hoy, riding Wanden Park, landed a successful double at the Longleat Horse Trials near Frome yesterday, winning the BEIB Open Intermediate Series final and clinching the special Accumulator. Sarah Bullen and Rock King finished second in the Accumulator on the same score, but had a slower cross country. Anna Herman and Balsam took third place.

POLO

Woodchester triumph heralded by Garros

By John Watson

WOODCHESTER, who are put together by the Irish player Craig McKinney, carried off polo's premier medium-goal trophy, the Royal Windsor Cup, at the Guards Club yesterday with a 9-5½ victory against Stefan Marsaglia's Azzura (received half), who had narrowly beaten Rick Stowe's team, Geebung, in the semi-finals.

Silvestre Garros, Woodchester's seven handicap pivot man, led the attacks that put his squad into a three-goal lead before the close of the first chukka. Azzura's celebrated central duo — Jose Donoso, of Chile, and Andrew Seavill — were just not quick enough to forestall them. By treading-in time Woodchester were 6-2½ ahead, both of Azurra's goals having been scored by Donoso.

Oliver Taylor, whose penalty shots for Azzura had been frustrated by the fierce cross-wind, converted a 60-yarder during the fourth chukka and he followed that a minute later with a good goal from the open.

For the winners, Garros scored five and Johnny Good the other four.

WOODCHESTER: 1, C McKinney (0), 2, W Lucas (6), 3, S Garros (7), Back, J Good (2). **AZZURRA:** 1, S Marsaglia (0), 2, A Seavill (5), 3, J Donoso (6), Back, O Taylor (3).

RUGBY LEAGUE: BULLS EQUAL RECORD UNBEATEN RUN AND OPEN UP SEVEN-POINT LEAD AT TOP OF SUPER LEAGUE

Belligerent Bradford ready to take on the world

Salford Reds	24
Bradford Bulls	40

By Christopher Irvine

IT WILL take an exceptional side to beat Bradford Bulls, and them pressing on the self-destruct button to whittle away a seven-point advantage in the Stones Super League. More demanding questions than those asked yesterday at The Willows will be posed in the next three weeks by Penrith, Auckland and Cronulla in the world club championship.

The game was effectively over at half-time. Thereafter, Salford rallied themselves somewhat, but the damage had been done by inadequate defending and the sheer robustness of the Bulls. The fact that McNamara converted six of Bradford's seven tries from in front of the posts illustrated the ease with which Bradford beat a path down the middle.

Salford began the season well and reached the semi-finals of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, but wear and tear is taking its toll. Next Sunday, they open their world club championship account away to Adelaide. "With tackling as woeful as ours was in the first half, we might as well not get on the plane," Andy Gregory, the Salford coach, said.

Bradford's unbeaten start to the league campaign has equalled the record of 13 opening wins held jointly by Widnes (1981) and Wigan (1994). "If anyone is going to take our scalp, they are going to have to work damned hard to get it. We're not going to roll over for anybody," Matthew Elliott, the Bradford coach, said. He was less enamoured by the second period, in which Watson, Martin, McAvoy and Smith enabled Salford to outscore Bradford four tries to three. Perhaps, though, it was wise, in the heat, to conserve energies for the forthcoming visits to Odsal of the Australasian Super League trio.

Bradford's own Australian contingent were in impressive form. As well as scoring a brace of tries, Bradley played a part in three others. Tomlinson, opposite him at half back, triggered the points rush, streaking clear from 40 metres, and Peacock, easily the best of the new Antipodean imports this year, was always there to put vim into the attack and vigour into the defensive line.

His first try was simplicity itself, but Bradley showed good pace for a man of 33, outstripping Sini in a charge to the line from halfway. Revelling in the room and missed tackles, he took the inside track in setting up the position from which Lowes, the hooker, making his third contribution to the build-up to the last try of the half, fed the unstoppable Wittenberg.

Faimalo's try from acting half back, in the ninth minute, was Salford's only scoring contribution to the first half. As well as they battled afterwards, further Bradford tries by Lowes, Forshaw and Calland killed off any notion of a comeback.

SCORERS: Salford: Tries: Faimalo, Watson, Martin, McAvoy, Smith. Goals: Blakeley, Watson. Bradford: Tries: Bradley (2), Tomlinson, Wittenberg, Lowes, Forshaw, Calland. Goals: McNamara (6).

SALFORD REDS: G Broadbent, F Sini, D Rogers, N McAvoy, P Coussons, S Blakeley, I Watson, P Southern, P Edwards, C Eccles, E Faimalo, L Savelio, D Hulme. Subs: R Smith, A Platt, A Burgess, S Martin.

BRADFORD BULLS: S Spruce, P Loughlin, D Peacock, M Calland, J Scales, G Bradley, G Tomlinson, P Anderson, J Lowes, B McDermott, M Forshaw, S Knox, S McNamara. Subs: J Wittenberg, N Graham, P Medley, T Rahana.

Referee: S Cummings (Widnes).

Hull gain revenge

HULL, the runaway first division leaders, made Whitehaven pay for being the only side to take a point off them this season, with a crushing 40-12 win at the Boulevard yesterday.

Hull led 34-0 at the break with Tevita Vaikona, the Tongan centre, scoring two tries, and Mark Hewitt, the scrum half, adding a try and five goals. Further scores came from Matt Schultz, Jason Donohue, Steve Craven and a 90-metre interception try from Chico Jackson.

Workington, the bottom-placed club, ended a run of six straight defeats with a 24-12 home win over Swinton with Mateaki Mafi, the Tongan winger, scoring two tries on his debut.

هكذا من الاصل

Maturing team secures World Cup victory over Poland to mark end of coach's apprenticeship

Hoddle graduates with honours as England excel

FROM OLIVER HOLT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN KATOWICE

POLAND 0 ENGLAND 2
Shearer (6min)
Sheringham (90)
Attendance: 35,000

SOME of the stadium officials had put bottles of beer out on the small wooden table in the room where Glenn Hoddle was expected. One of them had been left unopened for him, more out of courtesy than expectation, but when he appeared, the abstemiousness that seems to have characterised so much of his England reign was gone. He took the bottle, poured it into a glass and began to drain it.

This, more than any other moment during his nine-match tenure as England coach, was no time for half-measures or cautious celebrations. As he drank and the whoops and cheers of his departing players echoed through the corridors of the Slaski Stadium, everyone knew that they were witnessing the end of an apprenticeship, the flowering of a new phase for the national team.

It has taken a long time to banish the blithe spirit of Euro 96, mainly because no one wanted to let it go. Its memory, though, and the dynamic leadership of Terry Venables, had always seemed to linger over Hoddle's England team and its prosaic efficiency. Saturday night in Silesia changed all that.

There was strength and an inspirational resolve in the team that beat Poland and bolstered England's chances of qualifying for the World Cup finals in France next year without having to rely on a two-legged play-off with another of the best of the rest. But there was flair, too. There was daring in the selection of Robert Lee and Paul Gascoigne ahead of David Batty on such hostile territory and an exciting maturity in the performances of the young and relatively inexperienced rearguard of Gary Neville, Gareth Southgate and Sol Campbell.

There was, indeed, a sense of fruition about the match, a feeling that it marked at last the gelling of Hoddle's team and his graduation as the national coach. At last, it has allowed everyone to look forward to next summer rather than hark back to the delights of last summer.

"I hope this will get people looking forward," Hoddle said. "There are only two games left for us in the qualifying campaign for the World Cup and that is a sign of how close it is getting. Everybody has got to look to the future.

"We should have got Euro 96 out of our veins by now. To be honest, I have never had it in my veins anyway because I have been concentrating on the task ahead since I took over. But perhaps it was in some of the players' minds and the public's, too.

"In the last couple of weeks, though, for the first time, the whole squad has had an extended period together, just like they did before the European championship. It is the first time we have experienced that and it has been very important for us.

"We have been in each other's pockets and there has been a nice bit of camaraderie between the staff and the players, and everyone else who has been involved. We have put a lot of work into it and it has been very satisfying to see it all pay off."

It paid off quickly, too. The crowd was still baying in the cold night air after Poland's first glimpse of attack when Lee slipped a neat pass to Ince on the edge of the England penalty area and the Internazionale player surged towards the halfway line.

Hoddle: bold selection

After all the analysis and the bemoaning of the fact that England were overly reliant on Gascoigne for creativity, Ince surged between Bukalski and Waldoch and hit a perfect, defence-splitting pass 30 yards ahead to Shearer. He ran on to it and struck it right-footed unerringly beyond Wozniak. Six minutes had elapsed.

Three minutes later, Gascoigne, who had had no time to impose himself, was caught by a high challenge from Bukalski that left an ugly weal high on his thigh. He struggled on for seven more minutes, leaving Hoddle and his staff in a state of high anxiety on the touchline, before bowing to the inevitable and giving way to Batty.

England had a lucky escape after half an hour, when Neville made a rare mistake and allowed a poor Polish pass to run under his foot. Fortunately, Juskowiak, the intended recipient, had turned away in disgust at the inaccuracy of the ball and, by the time that the shouts of the crowd alerted him to what had happened, the chance had gone.

Poland nearly snatched an equaliser three minutes before half-time, when Majak beat Beckham — one of the few England disappointments on the night as he struggled defensively with his wing-back role — to a clever through-ball and slid a pass across England's goal. Southgate hooked it off the line as the Poles hurled themselves towards the ball.

In first-half injury time, though, England should have doubled their advantage. Shearer, who had been outstanding throughout the first 45 minutes, was held after he had controlled Batty's chip into the box and a penalty was awarded. Shearer struck it firmly to the goalkeeper's right, but it rebounded to safety off the foot of the post.

In the second half, the defensive trio — Ince and Le Saux in particular — fought tirelessly to repel the gathering Polish advances and never allowed them a hint of a clear chance.

When the game had slipped into injury time, Lee played a one-two with Sheringham to breach the offside trap, and when he had rounded Wozniak, he played the ball back to the Tottenham Hotspur striker, who slammed it into the empty net.

On the bench, Hoddle hugged his assistant, John Gorman, and in that room below the stand, the officials started pulling the bottles of beer from their box.

ENGLAND (3-5-1-1): D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester United), G Southgate (Aston Villa), S Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur) — D Beckham (Manchester United; sub: P Neville, Manchester United, 88min), P Gascoigne (Rangers; sub: D Batty, Newcastle United, 16), P Ince (Internazionale), R Lee (Newcastle United), G Le Saux (Blackburn Rovers) — E Sheringham (Tottenham Hotspur) — A Shearer (Newcastle United).

POLAND (3-5-2): A Wozniak (FC Porto) — M Jozwiak (Guingamp), J Zielinski (Legia Warsaw), R Kaluzny (Zaglebie Lubin) — A Ledwon (GKS Katowice), K Bukalski (Genk; sub: P Swierczewski, Bastia, 46), P Nowak (Munich 1860; sub: C Kucharski, Legia Warsaw, 57), S Majak (Widzew Lodz), T Waldoch (VfL Bochum) — A Juskowiak (Borussia Mönchengladbach; sub: W Adamczyk, Hutnik Krakow, 51), J Dembinski (Widzew Lodz)
Referee: U Meier (Switzerland).

ROSS KINNAIRD / ALLSPORT

The Poland fans offered their team brief support before concentrating on parochial enmities. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird / Allsport

Evening full of sound and misplaced fury

Nick Szczepanik reports from Katowice on the disaffection of the home supporters and Polish football's hooligan problem

All told, it was a miserable Saturday evening in Katowice for supporters of Poland, their spirits finally as damp as the weather. The long weekend, which began with the official public holiday on Thursday, brought their team's elimination from the World Cup and, in a country which is modernising at a frightening rate in other respects, a continuation of the football hooliganism that, to English eyes, is as dead as the Mexican wave. But, then, the Poles still do that too.

An hour or so before kick-off, a lull in the drizzle and the aroma of pre-match barbecues and the wooded surroundings of the Stadion Slaski had promised better. Inside the ground, however, things were immediately uncomfortable. Open-air seating in a climate like Poland's seemed as bad an idea as dressing in a Santa suit and Groucho mask and banging a big drum — luckily the person in question quickly left his seat nearby in search of other people to annoy.

The singing of the national anthem and the usual football songs, but with Polish lyrics, was rousing. The old standby, *Guantanamera*, becomes "We are with you" — ironic bearing in mind what was to follow — while "Poland, white and red" fits the tune of *Go West*, although the home side mysteriously turned out in their second-choice of all red once again against England. Hasn't anyone revealed the concept of unlucky kits to them?

Polish applause for *God Save the Queen* was an unexpected pleasure, but the crowd made up for it by whistling the announcement of the visiting team so loudly that, as far as I could make out, England would be represented only by Tim Flowers, Paul Scholes and Glenn Hoddle.

Once the game had started, and Shearer's goal had shut Santa up for all of 30 seconds, it did not take spectators long to start arguing among themselves and criticising the players. "They all got drunk last night" and "they want to walk the ball into the net" were typical comments as the home team, ponderous yet brittle, lumbered forward more in hope than expectation.

Even Shearer's penalty miss did not inspire the spectators. Many preferred to discuss the finer points of a half-time skirmish between rival groups of Polish supporters than the football; it was disappointing that, with their team only a single goal behind, there was so little attempt to lift the players.

Santa left with five minutes to go and, while most crowds would have been urging their favourites to a last, desperate effort, those in the next enclosure gave in to parochial enmities and started a fight. Perhaps it is a good thing that Poland will not reach the finals; some of their followers have yet to learn the lessons that, one fondly hopes, ours have taken to heart.

Outside afterwards, there were few good words for their team or fellow fans, although England's performance drew admiring comments. "The England players were more professional," Krzysztof, a Wroclaw businessman, said. "They should have scored four. The Poles who play in the West saw that it was hopeless and didn't bother. Neville and the others had springs in their feet by comparison."

Arkadiusz, an economics student, agreed. "When Shearer got that pass, he knew what he had to do," he said. "Polish supporters are only interested in fighting and don't know what football is. We have to start again from scratch, and we have a long way to go. But good luck to England."

Parma earn Champions' League slot

ENRICO CHIESA and Hernan Crespo scored the goals as Parma beat Verona 2-1 on the final day of the Italian League season to seal second place in Serie A and earn a berth in the European Champions' League for the first time.

Internazionale, of Milan, had hoped to overhaul Parma but instead settled for third place — and a Uefa Cup berth — after a 2-2 draw at Bologna.

Italy's other three representatives in the Uefa Cup will be Lazio, Sampdoria and Udinese, who secured their first-ever European place by beating Roma 3-0.

Sampdoria drew 1-1 with Fiorentina in what was Roberto Mancini's last game after 15 years with the Genoa club. He and Sven-Goran Eriksson, the coach, will move to Lazio next season.

After going behind in the sixth minute at Verona, Parma equalised through Chiesa 11 minutes later and then Crespo, an Argentina international, scored their winner in the second half.

Juventus, who had already secured their second league title in three years, finished the campaign by drawing 2-2 with Lazio of Rome.

At the bottom of the table, the season is still not over for two teams.

By beating Perugia 2-1, Piacenza earned the right to face Cagliari in a play-off relegation game to determine who will go down with the three other relegated clubs, Perugia, Reggiana and Verona. Cagliari defeated AC Milan, the deposed champions, 1-0 yesterday.

Rangers reach for shooting stars while Brown broods

BY KEVIN McCARRA

THE international match in Malta yesterday was intended to set a small test for an experimental Scotland defence, but its members made a messy scrawl of the exam paper. Craig Brown's side twice conceded equalisers in the 3-2 victory and the manager is left to ponder his choice of centre backs for the important World Cup qualifying game against Belarus, in Minsk, on Sunday.

With Colin Hendry, Colin Calderwood and Alan McLaren all injured, Brown has been in search of deputies, but the loss of experience could not be disguised in the Ta'Qali stadium. With Brian McAllister replaced by David Weir at the half-time interval, Scotland have not yet found a satisfactory line-up.

Darren Jackson's second goal of the afternoon, in the 81st minute, proved to be the winner. He had also found the net just before the interval and Christian Dailly had headed home after four minutes. Malta, all the same, were surprisingly incisive on the break, scoring through Herbert Suda and Stefan Sultana, a substitute.

Brown was concerned primarily by his defence, yet the forward line, too, can give cause for anxiety. Jackson has become a significant asset, but the brace in Valletta took his total to only three in 19 appearances. While there is great worth in the verve of his overall performance, the manager must have wished that he also possessed a predatory finisher, given that Malta have conceded 29 goals in seven World Cup qualifying fixtures.

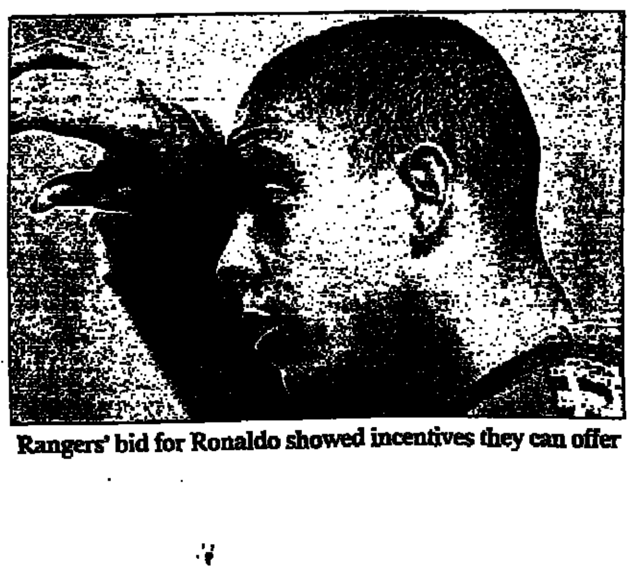
There are other Scots who may be in a position to buy themselves such a figure. The attempt by David Murray, the Rangers chairman, to sign Ronaldo from Barcelona appears to have failed, but the episode has revealed the extraordinary incentives the club can offer as it tries to lure the finest talents.

The Brazil forward still prefers to join Internazionale in Milan, but even the most illustrious players may be tempted by the terms available from Murray. Nonetheless, the chairman made his proposal, which was rejected last week, sound pragmatic rather than vainglorious. Barcelona would have received a £20 million fee, while Ronaldo was to be paid an annual salary of £2.5 million.

Murray, however, intended to sell the player in 1999 and believes that Ronaldo's value will by then have doubled to £40 million. The forward, having agreed to a transfer, would have been given 25 per cent of the increase in his worth, £5 million. Had the scheme worked, Rangers would have been left with £10 million profit after a total outlay of £30 million to Barcelona and Ronaldo.

In addition, there would have been the benefit of two years of dynamism from the player and, perhaps, improved income from sustained runs in European competition. A vast increase in merchandising might also be anticipated at the club that acquires the Brazilian.

Murray has been unsuccessful on this occasion, but the same logic will see him treat international football magazines, with the exalted forwards they chronicle, as catalogues. For Brown, who can only pick Scotsmen, prolific goalscorers are to be found only in daydreams.


Rangers' bid for Ronaldo showed incentives they can offer

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CRICKET: ESSEX SECRETARY STANDS FIRM AGAINST PLANS FOR WHOLESALE REFORM OF ENGLISH GAME

Edwards leads counter-revolution

ALAN LEE

Championship Commentary

WHATEVER Essex achieve this season, starting with the need to take two immediate wickets at Ilford this morning, the one thing that they will not do is surrender a reputation as the county most resistant to change. Some will call them reactionary, others simply responsible, but they are most certainly intransigent and proud of it.

Within the next two months, a blueprint for the future of the game will be put before the counties by the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Lord Maclaurin of Knebworth. By definition, it will not propose that everyone continues just as they are.

Lord Maclaurin is sufficiently new to the territory to be uncertain of specific reaction from the shires, but he will have been warned to expect no encouragement from the Essex delegates if, as he should, he ventures into such contentious areas as a two-division championship or the abolition of a competition.

Peter Edwards has been secretary of Essex for 19 years — only Mike Vockins, at Worcestershire, has been in the job longer — and he is principally known for two things. He runs his club with slide-rule efficiency and he is the most vocal objector whenever the shape and routine of the county programme is threatened with reform.

He makes no secret of this. "It's quite true," he said. "I am a traditionalist, like most people involved with Essex. We do resist change. We don't like coloured clothing or any of the noise and clamour that is coming into one-day cricket and I do not think a great deal needs altering in the county structure. I also think most counties agree with us."

Edwards is prepared to accept that the English game, in its broadest form, requires attention, but his targets are deliberately remote from his own domain.

"There are three things wrong," he said, "and, if we put them right, everything else will fall into place. Cricket in schools must be addressed urgently because it is unacceptable that 80 per cent of kids no longer get cricket in their blood as a matter of course. When I was at school you needed a doctor's certificate to avoid playing cricket and many boys grew to love the game through it. My fear is that there may be another Denis Compton out there who will never have a bat put in his hands.

"We need another major personality for the youngsters to relate to. The England team has been rather grey of late. We have not really had a fearless, larger-than-life character since Botham, but I think we may just have found one in Adam Hollioake.

"Finally, of course, we need a bètter England team, and there are many different views of how we should achieve that." Including, as Edwards knows, changes of the type that he is intent on vetoing.

Two divisions? "It would be a disaster." Regional representative games? "There would be no crowds — no one would be interested, including sponsors." The dropping of a one-day competition? "I could not support that. I think the Benson and Hedges Cup, for instance, is a tremendous competition."

Owlish behind his spectacles and as thick-skinned as he is strident, Edwards may be considered a dinosaur, clinging to the past in a game that must now move into the fast lane to survive. Undoubtedly, he has co-ordinated and articulated opposition to the majority of attempts to streamline the county programme.

He has done so passionately, memorably and infuriatingly, but invariably for what he perceives as the best interests of his county. By way of example, he agreed to Sussex's innovative proposal to start their championship game with Essex this month later in the day but insisted on a 7.30pm finish rather than 8.30pm. "With the minimum-overs rule we could still have been playing after nine o'clock and I don't think most spectators want that," he said.

Edwards is voluble on the rights of county members and battles to stage cricket when he thinks it is best for them and his sponsors. No conversation with him will proceed for long without mention of the sponsors. But call him short-sighted or outdated and the counter-evidence will be presented. When a ballot was held among the counties last year to elect their three representatives on the management committee of the ECB, Edwards finished top. He is seen, especially by those at smaller counties that do not stage Test cricket, as their defender of the faith.

He says that he will support any plan to stage the county championship as an entirely midweek competition, so long as the number of games is not reduced and the teams are not in any way divided. He is willing to accept one-day leagues on both days of the weekend. "It just depends how it is presented to the clubs," he said. "When the Murray report came out a few seasons back it was pushed through on an all-or-nothing basis. I warned the board at the time that within a few years two-thirds of it would have been thrown out, and I was right."

Lord Maclaurin has invested much time and attention in his blueprint. Reforming county championship cricket is his priority, and rightly so, but he may rest assured that, if he intends something more radical than these cosmetic changes, he is in for a fight.

Such, the Essex No 11, is put under pressure during the enthralling county championship match against Yorkshire. Photograph: Adrian Sherratt

Hayden made to feel at home

IT IS possible to condemn a pitch for being too bland and there is a good case for doing so at Southampton (Alan Lee writes). A moribund championship game has so far produced 1,180 runs in three days and only 13 wickets. At this rate, it would barely reach a natural conclusion in a week.

All credit to the Hampshire batsmen for climbing the psychological mountain necessary to make 482 against Warwickshire simply to avoid the follow-on. They were led to safety by a double century from their Australian, Matthew Hayden, who has always tended towards the big hundreds once he starts making them, and by the first century of Shaun Udal's career.

Barring farcical collusion, however, the match will conclude in the most tepid of draws today and it is hard to imagine that anyone has greatly enjoyed either playing in it or watching it.

No such problems at Trent Bridge, where Kent won by an innings, well inside three days. Nottinghamshire had won their previous two games, showing some gumption in doing so, but they are essentially a weak side and Kent exposed them.

Durham and Northamptonshire could also be heading for innings defeats. Glamorgan have a tight grip at Cardiff, where Durham, following on, remain 110 runs behind with six wickets left. Northamptonshire are in still worse trouble against Middlesex, 147 adrift following on with only four wickets remaining.

There have been five wickets so far for Phil Tufnell at Lord's and he was not the only England player in form. At Grace Road, Michael Atherton made his first championship century for two years, leading a determined Lancashire rally against Leicestershire.

Johnson sows the seeds of recovery

Richard Hobson talks to a captain who has had more to worry about than most

Few county cricketers of the present generation have given as much pleasure as Paul Johnson. Not even the stoniest face can remain straight for long when he has a bat in his grip and begins to wield it pugnaciously. It is appropriate, then, that after a difficult introduction to both fatherhood and captaincy, Johnson no longer has to consider a smile of his own a luxury.

In his first season since accepting the baton of leadership from Tim Robinson, Johnson supervised Nottinghamshire to just a single championship win and failed himself to reach 1,000 first-class runs for the second successive summer. A natural worrier, the health of his first daughter, Ruth, who has Down's syndrome and also underwent emergency heart surgery, compounded his uncertainty. Jackie, his wife, was pregnant for a second time.

'He is now ready to give youth its head'

Kent's victory at Trent Bridge on Saturday, achieved with a day to spare, added credence to Johnson's wise words of the previous evening, when he opined that championship victories over Lancashire and Derbyshire did not amount to a resurgence. Yet he has reason to believe that the seeds of a recovery have taken root. Back at his home in Long Bennington, Ruth has celebrated her second birthday, emerged through the chill of winter bigger and stronger, and is enjoying the company of her sister, Eve, eight months.

Johnson, who has become involved in fund-raising for a Down's charity, said: "When I get to the ground it is a lot easier to switch on to cricket knowing that things are all right with Ruth. She is never going to be the most healthy of girls. At the moment she has a cold and it is more of a problem to her than it would be for other children of the same age, but the more I live with her, the more I learn the best way to go about things."

He intends to express more of his own personality over the coming months. Whereas last season he gravitated naturally towards his own contemporaries, this time he is more prepared to give youth its head. Clive Rice, a towering influence, first selected Johnson at 16, after all, and, in Usman Afzaal, Nottinghamshire may at last have discovered somebody to anchor the innings when Robinson eventually retires.

"I strongly believe that a captain is as good as the rest of the team allows," Johnson said. "Everybody goes on about James Whitaker [the Leicestershire captain] but, last season, he had a lot of luck with players staying fit and only had to use 13 for the entire championship. I am not belittling what he did but he is not a Brearley or a Reeve. It was his first year, too, and things went for him that did not go for me.

"Last season we were always in losing positions, so I had to set routine fields to restrict the batsmen and try to sneak a wicket here and there. This time I have been able to experiment. When things work, people say my captaincy has improved."

Given the way he bats, it should surprise nobody that even with his problems last season he excelled in the Sunday league, in which Nottinghamshire finished second, level on points with Surrey, the winners. Had England been as adventurous in selecting one-day sides in the past as they are today it is inconceivable that Johnson would not have been picked at some stage.

His best chance of elevation followed a successful A tour of the West Indies in 1992. "Keith Fletcher [the team manager for the trip] said he thought I had a role to play for England for several years, but for some reason it did not happen," Johnson said. "It is something I try not to think about. There have been more important reasons to worry."

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Essex v Yorkshire

ILFORD (third day of four): Yorkshire, with two second-innings wickets in hand, require six runs to beat Essex

ESSEX: First Innings 297 (R J Rollins 60, D Gough 5 for 74)

Second Innings

G A Gooch c Blakey b Silverwood	4
A P Grayson c Byas b Stemp	27
N Hussain c Blakey b White	38
S G Law c Byas b White	76
R C Irani c Blakey b Stemp	100
D R Law lbw b Stemp	33
†R J Rollins c Lehmann b Stemp	0
*P J Prichard c Byas b White	1
M C Ilott c Lehmann b Stemp	11
A P Cowan c Byas b Stemp	2
P M Such not out	2
Extras (lb 4, nb 14)	18
Total	312

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-63, 3-89, 4-180, 5-235, 6-239, 7-242, 8-293, 9-297

BOWLING: Gough 18-1-78-0, Silverwood 5-0-12-1, Stemp 31.2-8-77-6, Hartley 2-0-15-0, White 16-1-82-3, Vaughan 8-0-44-0, Lehmann 1-1-0-0

YORKSHIRE: First Innings 334 (M P Vaughan 161, R J Blakey 92, P M Such 6 for 121)

Second Innings

M D Moxon c Rollins b Ilott	16
M P Vaughan b Ilott	0
*D Byas lbw b Such	89
D S Lehmann lbw b Such	81
B Parker c Rollins b Such	33
P J Hartley c D R Law b Grayson	1
C White c sub b Such	2
†R J Blakey lbw b Such	0
D Gough not out	21
C E W Silverwood not out	2
Extras (b 4, lb 17, w 4)	25
Total (8 wkts)	270

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-26, 3-165, 4-229, 5-232, 6-235, 7-235, 8-266

BOWLING: Ilott 10-3-30-2, Cowan 6-1-30-0, Such 34-7-89-5, Grayson 21-0-77-1, S G Law 5-0-23-0

Bonus points: Essex 6 Yorkshire 7

Umpires: G Sharp and J F Steele

Glamorgan v Durham

CARDIFF (third day of four): Durham, with six second-innings wickets in hand, need 110 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 597 for 8 dec (S P James 153, H Morris 135, M P Maynard 134 not out, A Dale 73)

DURHAM: First Innings

J J B Lewis c Maynard b Watkin	21
P D Collingwood c Croft b Waqar	17
J E Morris b Watkin	20
N J Speak c Shaw b Waqar	10
*D C Boon b Waqar	66
†M P Speight b Thomas	5
M J Foster lbw b Croft	129
D M Cox b Thomas	24
J Boiling not out	10
S J E Brown c and b Watkin	1
A Walker b Watkin	16
Extras (b 4, lb 14, w 2, nb 6)	26
Total (110.2 overs)	345

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-58, 3-59, 4-76, 5-81, 6-221, 7-259, 8-328, 9-329

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 22-4-98-3; Watkin 28.2-10-73-4; Thomas 20-7-59-2; Croft 25-8-51-1; Cosker 12-4-41-0; Dale 3-2-5-0

Second Innings

J J B Lewis lbw b Watkin	5
P D Collingwood lbw b Waqar	1
J E Morris not out	84
N J Speak b Thomas	25
*D C Boon lbw b Waqar	15
J Boiling not out	0
Extras (b 4, lb 4, nb 4)	12
Total (4 wkts)	142

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-13, 3-97, 4-141

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 13-5-28-2, Watkin 8-3-8-1, Croft 17-6-34-0, Thomas 9-1-28-1, Dale 5-2-10-0, Cosker 8-2-26-0

Bonus points: Glamorgan 8 Durham 4

Umpires: A A Jones and B J Meyer

Hampshire v Warwickshire

SOUTHAMPTON (third day of four): Hampshire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 82 runs behind Warwickshire

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 631 for 7 dec (A J Moles 168, D L Hemp 138, T L Penney 86 not out, N V Knight 81, G Welch 75)

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

G W White c Frost b Welch	1
M L Hayden not out	235
K D James c Knight b Altree	0
*R A Smith c Penney b Altree	35
W S Kendall c Moles b Welch	76
D A Kenway b Welch	2
†A N Aymes c Moles b Welch	19
S D Udal not out	117
Extras (b 6, lb 6, w 14, nb 38)	64
Total (6 wkts)	549

Score at 120 overs: 404-6

R J Maru, C A Connor and J N B Bovill to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-8, 3-76, 4-282, 5-284, 6-344

BOWLING: Altree 22-3-108-2, Welch 31-6-119-4, Giles 44-10-112-0, Smith 30-3-120-0, Brown 18-4-54-0, Hemp 3-0-24-0

Bonus points: Hampshire 4 Warwickshire 6

Umpires: J W Holder and A G T Whitehead

Leicestershire v Lancashire

LEICESTER (third day of four): Lancashire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 184 runs ahead of Leicestershire

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 373 (G D Lloyd 82, G Chapple 63, W K Hegg 58; A D Mullally 5 for 79)

Second Innings

J E R Gallian lbw b Parsons	99
*M A Atherton not out	100
J P Crawley lbw b Parsons	61
Extras (lb 7, nb 12)	19
Total (2 wkts)	279

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-169, 2-279

BOWLING: Millns 8-3-32-0, Mullally 8-3-36-0, Parsons 20-3-52-2; Pierson 26-3-91-0; Wells 3-0-17-0, Johnson 8-0-25-0; Maddy 5-0-29-0

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

V J Wells c Fairbrother b Gallian	96
D L Maddy c Lloyd b Chapple	0
B F Smith lbw b Austin	31
*J J Whitaker lbw b Yates	6
N C Johnson lbw b Austin	150
A Habib b Martin	38
†P A Nixon lbw b Gallian	96
D J Millns b Chapple	11
G J Parsons c Atherton b Gallian	16
A R K Pierson b Chapple	12
A D Mullally not out	1
Extras (lb 6, w 6)	12
Total	469

Score at 120 overs: 448-8

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-57, 3-97, 4-170, 5-215, 6-414, 7-437, 8-437, 9-462

BOWLING: Martin 23-6-84-1; Chapple 20-4-79-3; Austin 23-7-65-2; Yates 28-5-93-1; Keedy 17-2-90-0; Gallian 14.1-3-51-3

Bonus points: Leicestershire 8 Lancashire 7

Umpires: B Leadbeater and R Palmer

Middlesex v Northamptonshire

LORD'S (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with four second-innings wickets in hand, need 147 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Middlesex

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 531 (J H Kallis 121, M R Ramprakash 111, M W Gatting 108, K R Brown 61 not out; J P Taylor 4 for 99)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

D J Roberts c Moffat b Tufnell	21
R R Montgomerie lbw b Hewitt	0
*R J Bailey c Moffat b Tufnell	44
K M Curran not out	89
A L Penberthy c Brown b Hewitt	27
J P Taylor c Weekes b Hewitt	7
D J Capel c Gatting b Hewitt	4
T C Walton lbw b Hewitt	8
J N Snape c Gatting b Johnson	2
†D Ripley lbw b Johnson	0
D Follett b Johnson	0
Extras (lb 2, w 10, nb 2)	14
Total (79 overs)	216

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-62, 3-72, 4-146, 5-169, 6-185, 7-195, 8-204, 9-208

BOWLING: Fraser 15-6-36-0, Hewitt 20-5-50-5; Johnson 22-5-70-3; Weekes 6-2-23-0; Tufnell 14-4-22-2

Second Innings

D J Roberts c Brown b Kallis	42
R R Montgomerie lbw b Johnson	14
*R J Bailey c Weekes b Kallis	23
K M Curran c Kallis b Tufnell	23
A L Penberthy c Kallis b Tufnell	8
D J Capel not out	23
T C Walton lbw b Tufnell	4
J N Snape not out	19
Extras (b 1, lb 9, nb 2)	12
Total (6 wkts)	168

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-39, 2-82, 3-93, 4-121, 5-130, 6-134

BOWLING: Fraser 13-3-26-0, Hewitt 8-2-12-0, Weekes 15-2-35-0; Tufnell 28-14-41-3, Johnson 12-7-24-1, Kallis 9-3-20-2

Bonus points: Middlesex 8 Northamptonshire 3

Umpires: R Julian and J D Bond

Nottinghamshire v Kent

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four): Kent (24pts) beat Nottinghamshire (4) by an innings and 105 runs

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 216 (U Afzaal 54, M V Fleming 5 for 51)

Second Innings

A A Metcalfe c Ealham b McCague	8
M P Dowman lbw b McCague	7
G F Archer c Cowdrey b McCague	0
N A Gie c Ward b Strang	7
*P Johnson c Marsh b Ealham	2
U Afzaal c Fulton b Fleming	36
†W M Noon c Ealham b Phillips	30
K P Evans c Ealham b McCague	5
P J Franks b Strang	6
R T Bates lbw b Phillips	8
M N Bowen not out	4
Extras (b 2, lb 2, w 2)	6
Total	119

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-12, 3-17, 4-20, 5-62, 6-72, 7-78, 8-87, 9-112

BOWLING: McCague 17-7-33-4, Phillips 6.5-1-9-2, Ealham 15-6-23-1, Fleming 10-4-29-1, Strang 21-11-21-2

KENT: First Innings

D P Fulton c Archer b Bowen	34
M J Walker c Dowman b Bowen	6
B J Phillips lbw b Evans	7
T R Ward c Bates b Bowen	7
A P Wells c Franks b Evans	35
G R Cowdrey c Evans b Bates	28
M A Ealham c Johnson b Franks	122
M V Fleming c Noon b Bates	11
*†S A Marsh c Archer b Bates	6
P A Strang c Johnson b Evans	73
M J McCague not out	14
Extras (b 14, lb 11, w 8, nb 2)	35
Total	440

Score at 120 overs: 382-8

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-52, 3-63, 4-156, 5-172, 6-215, 7-240, 8-250, 9-421

BOWLING: Evans 35-4-115-3, Franks 29.4-4-94-1, Bowen 35-9-103-3, Bates 30-8-89-3, Dowman 3-0-14-0

Umpires: A Clarkson and D R Shepherd

Worcestershire v Somerset

WORCESTER (third day of four): Worcestershire, with six second-innings wickets in hand, are 146 runs ahead of Somerset

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 303 (T S Curtis 101, G R Haynes 70; A R Caddick 5 for 64)

Second Innings

T S Curtis c Turner b Caddick	1
W P C Weston c Turner b Caddick	65
G A Hick lbw b Caddick	17
K R Spiring lbw b Shine	37
G R Haynes not out	16
D A Leatherdale not out	35
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 6)	15
Total (4 wkts)	186

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-40, 3-129, 4-136

BOWLING: Caddick 18-5-50-3, Shine 10-3-36-1, Ahmed 28-9-54-0; Rose 9-2-31-0, Bowler 4-3-2-0; Dimond 2-1-4-0

SOMERSET: First Innings

M N Lathwell lbw b Lampitt	42
*P D Bowler c Hick b Lampitt	25
P C L Holloway c Rhodes b Sheriyar	61
R J Harden lbw b Leatherdale	15
M Burns c Rhodes b Leatherdale	0
G D Rose c Hick b Leatherdale	37
†R J Turner not out	83
M Dimond c Lampitt b Leatherdale	4
Mushtaq Ahmed c Rhodes b Sheriyar	14
A R Caddick lbw b Leatherdale	20
K J Shine lbw b Lampitt	15
Extras (b 2, lb 5, w 4, nb 16)	27
Total	343

Score at 120 overs: 341-9

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-63, 2-108, 3-135, 4-143, 5-168, 6-227, 7-237, 8-256, 9-296

BOWLING: Newport 15-8-22-0; Sheriyar 29-9-90-2; Haynes 19-4-54-0; Lampitt 28.4-11-80-3, Leatherdale 30-5-56-5, Solanki 5-1-22-0, Hick 5-2-12-0

Bonus points: Worcestershire 7 Somerset 7

Umpires: H D Bird and D J Constant

University match

Oxford University v Sussex

THE PARKS (second day of three): Oxford University, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 154 runs ahead of Sussex

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings 234 for 9 dec (J A G Fulton 50)

Second Innings

R D Hudson c Rao b Thursfield	2
B W Byrne b Thursfield	3
*M A Wagh b Bates	47
J A G Fulton c Lenham b Batt	46
P G Morgan c and b Batt	6
J J Bull not out	2
C Patel not out	8
Extras (lb 1, w 2, nb 6)	9
Total (5 wkts)	123

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-18, 3-107, 4-113, 5-113

BOWLING: Batt 11-3-28-2; Thursfield 8-3-31-2; Rao 6-0-35-0; Phillips 3-1-15-0; Bates 5-2-13-1

SUSSEX: First Innings

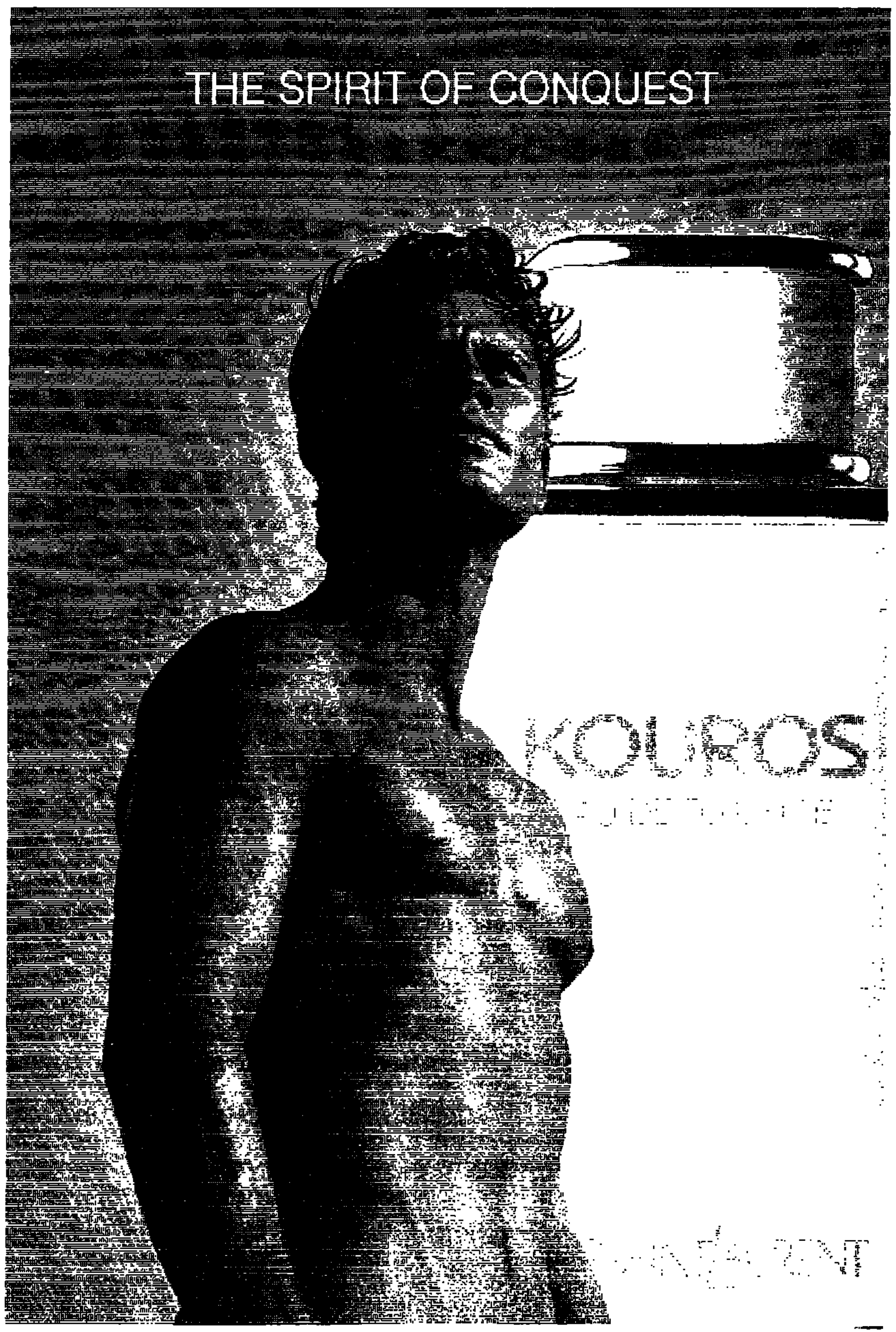
*N J Lenham c Fulton b Patel	1
T A Radford not out	58
R K Rao c Serns b Wagh	13
M Newell lbw b Patel	32
J P Pyemont c Wagh b Avens	22
M J Thursfield lbw b Patel	0
†S Humphries not out	41
Extras (lb 4, nb 32)	36
Total (5 wkts dec)	203

J J Bates, N C Phillips, C J Batt and R J Kirtley did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-39, 3-92, 4-142, 5-146

BOWLING: Avens 18-4-52-1, Patel 20-3-69-3, Wagh 13-2-39-1, Wright 7-1-39-0

Umpires: N T Plews and N Cowley



CRICKET

Butcher to make England debut in Edgbaston Test

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

THE twin principles of youth and continuity are promoted in England's selection for the first Ashes Test. Mark Butcher will make his debut after looking the most accomplished batsman on England's winter A tour and Alex Tudor, the most exciting young fast bowler in the land, will be introduced to the routines of Test cricket by joining the party during their preparation at Edgbaston.

Faith is quite properly shown in the men who won England's last two Tests in New Zealand — nine of them return for duty against Australia this week. But there is a more romantic return, too, one that for some while seemed implausible. Devon Malcolm is back and, unless the Edgbaston pitch undergoes a metamorphosis before Thursday, he will certainly play.

There were 14 names on the teamsheet yesterday morning, though it is stressed that Tudor is included for experience and will not play. David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, explained: "He will join the team as part of our ongoing commitment to identify young players and get them involved. Even a single day with the squad can be valuable to him."

The second teenager named by England this summer, Tudor will be freed to join the first, Ben Hollioake, in Surrey's championship team on Wednesday. By then, it is anticipated that the England squad will have been pruned to 12, probably with the release of a spin bowler.

The notion that the younger Hollioake would feature in the Test team was unrealistic. His batting is too innocent and his bowling, though rich in promise, is some way behind a queue of competitors. The accusation of such as Dennis Lillee and Geoffrey Boycott that the selectors have lost their nerve misses the point entirely; they actually deserve credit for picking and playing him in the Texaco Trophy.

Elder brother Adam, however, does make his first appearance in a Test squad, which at least saves the selectors from greater public ire. There is no guarantee he will play, ahead of Mark Ealham, but, if the pitch indicates the usual Edgbaston traits of uneven bounce and lateral movement — in other words, suggests the Test may not run its course — he will bat at No 7 and act as an occasional, fifth bowler.

Unless his bowling becomes something more than a bonus, Hollioake Sr must find a way into the top six to establish his Test career. He is capable of doing so but, after the comparative success of those who occupied this department in the winter, it is right that they receive initial loyalty.

The one batsman treated differently is Nick Knight. A broken finger delayed the start of his season and he has since looked technically vulnerable around off stump. He was not left out without the longest discussion of the selection meeting in Peterborough, but it is right that he should rediscover his touch in county cricket.

Hugh Morris and Steve James, the Glamorgan openers, were considered as replacements but Butcher, 24, won the vote. He impressed two of the selectors, David Graveney and Mike Gatting, when they were respectively manager and coach of the A team, and his graduation is fully deserved. He has an economical yet stylish technique and the gift of all high quality players, time to play his shots. He is also left-handed, which was considered useful.

The son of Alan Butcher, he is also the brother-in-law of Alec Stewart and it was appropriate that his inclusion prevented any prospect of Stewart being asked once more to open, in addition to keeping wicket. After years as a nomad in the team, Stewart is comfortable at No 3 and he should be moved only as a last resort.

With Robert Croft now an automatic choice, there was some debate over the second slow bowling position. Ashley Giles, who featured in the one-day series, and Peter Such, who has taken 11 wickets in Essex's match against Yorkshire, were both considered but Philip Tufnell did little wrong in the winter and deserves preference.

Graveney, a fellow slow left-armer, went to see Tufnell on Friday, watched him take wickets and encouraged him to continue taking them by attacking batsmen from round the wicket. "The captain felt comfortable in the winter with two spinners to give him control and we take that view on board," Graveney said.

Just for this match, however, Tufnell looks likely to miss out. Darren Gough and Andy Caddick were certainties for two of the seam bowling places and the third, contested by a variety of left-arm contenders, has been decisively claimed by Malcolm's prolific wicket-taking in the past month.

He was prevented from taking any more this weekend when Graveney made a late request to Derbyshire to omit him from their game against the Australians. It was a justifiable intervention, for it would clearly not have been in England's interests for Malcolm to play, but the timing of it angered the Derbyshire captain, Dean Jones.

Upsetting an Australian, however, was not the greatest of concerns for the selectors. They hope to upset a few more later this week.

SQUAD

	Age	Caps
M A Atherton (Lancs)	29	67
M A Butcher (Surrey)	24	0
A R Caddick (Somerset)	28	11
J P Crawley (Lancashire)	25	17
R D B Croft (Glamorgan)	27	5
M A Ealham (Kent)	27	2
D Gough (Yorkshire)	26	17
A J Hollioake (Surrey)	26	0
N Hussain (Essex)	29	17
D E Malcolm (Derbys)	34	36
A J Stewart (Surrey)	34	63
G P Thorpe (Surrey)	27	37
P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)	31	27

Gough bounces back onto higher plane

Simon Barnes finds hope springing eternal on the eve of a new Ashes series

It is not entirely true that anticipation is a deeper pleasure than consummation, but it is certainly a more reliable one. Especially where the England cricket team is concerned. So let us savour the moment: as the Ashes series begins in earnest this week. Australia appear half as good as we feared. England twice as good as we hoped.

That still leaves scope for a fair old gap. Remember that the teams started the year almost as far apart as it is possible to be. The Grand Canyon gap is, though, a touch narrower than seemed the case in January. We can look at the batting form of the troubled Australia captain Mark Taylor and measure it against the bowling form of England's bouncing Darren Gough.

You will remember Gough. He was the New Botham Mk XIII. I think I have got my counting right. Yet another Great England Hope, who stole every headline in English cricket and then vanished in a trice to the *Where Are They Now?* column.

Interestingly, as Gough charged in for Yorkshire against Essex at Ilford on Saturday, the place seemed to be filled with new Bothams. There was Ronnie Irani, of Essex, compiling a well thought-out century; there was Craig White, favoured boy of the former chairman, Ray Illingworth, willing as ever and still a shade below top class.

Still, at least White had a wicket: Gough finished the innings with nought for 78. He took five wickets in the first innings, though, and is said, after a triumphant performance against Australia in the one-day internationals, to be in the form of his life.

He did not seem quite that beneath the swift-screaming skies of Valentine's Park, being unable either to dislodge Irani or to knock over nine-ten-jack. But never mind the figures: I watched Gough closely and can report the important fact that he *bounced*.

Gough is a man who needs to bounce. He made his entry to Test cricket with a series of magnificently bouncy performances. Bowling, batting — everything — was a delight to him, and he reached his peak in Australia in a Test match in Sydney in January 1995, when he followed a gorgeous, whacking fifty by running through the Australian top order with six for 49.

Then followed a sad story of how Tigger was unbounced. Gough had seemed a wonderfully uncomplicated cricketer, a wonderfully uncomplicated person, but not long after his moment of triumph, Gough was filled with self-doubt. The truth is that uncomplicated people are bewilderingly complex.

In England we tend to blame our national *zeitgeist* when these things happen: how we build 'em up only to knock 'em down: must be something wrong with the country, the way we do this. Why can't we be like Australia, where they know how to nurture young talent?

Australians have precisely the same problem, however. They call it the Tall Poppy Syndrome: a plant that grows taller than those around it must be chopped down, ostensibly for the plant's own good, in reality because mediocrity — beg your pardon, equality — is a more comfortable concept.

Both countries go in for a fair amount of chest-beating when a young man falters on route to great things, but the truth of the matter is that young men do not need pushing towards self-doubt, failure and fear. They *are* perfectly capable of finding these things for themselves.

One might go even further, and say that no young man reaches maturity without meeting doubt and fear on the way. Those who are worth anything, anyway. No one could forget Botham's walk back to the pavilion at Lord's after completing his pair as England captain, nor his red-eyed announcement of his resignation.

With Gough, the story of doubt begins with the familiar one of physical wear and tear. Fast bowling is an extreme athletic discipline: it is the nature of the England system to make its practitioners do it far too often. Gough's utterly predictable stress fracture was not of the run-of-the-mill kind. The foot cracked beneath him in his delivery stride — a terrifying moment, a terrifying sound. The audible snap brought Gough to the floor wondering if he would ever bowl again.

Then came the long process of rehabiliation, and with it the curse of good advice. The more shattered a state you are in, the more you listen to advice, the less faith you have in your own solutions. Gough had lost not technique, but that crucial inner-faith. He had been unbounced.

The fault was not with the advisers but with the listener. He needed to break the cycle of advice and its failure and did so with the help of Shane Warne, of all people. Warne sent him a fax that reached him when he had reached an all-time low. It told him: "Be natural, be yourself."

There are times when a kindly-meant cliché means more than every line in Shakespeare. Such a cliché, from such a source, helped Gough to recover that inner-faith, that bounce. Relying on kind advice is all very well, but ultimately it is funking the real issue. Which is yourself.

A bouncing Gough has a precious talismanic quality, his delight in the game and his relish for the impossible are wonderfully inspiring. A bouncing Gough means that Australia will be playing against the best that England can come up with. Though it would be nice if the unbounced Dominic Cork could be rehabiliated as well. Perhaps Warne could send him a fax, too.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Gough suffers the frustrations of an unrewarding day's work on Saturday

Adams' tantrum overshadows heartening display by Taylor

By Ivo Tennant

DERBY (second day of three): the Australians, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 253 runs ahead of Derbyshire

DEVON MALCOLM held court at the Racecourse Ground and spoke of what he has in mind for the Australia batsmen in the first Test. "Nobody," he insisted softly, "likes fast bowling." Be that as it may, Mark Taylor will combat him and England this week in greater heart, for he is, at last, making some runs.

Taylor's unbeaten half-century against Derbyshire yesterday was only his third in first-class cricket in a year and a half, and it was not exactly a fluent innings.

His first scoring shot was edged just wide of second slip and he was dropped without addition by, of all people, Dean Jones, a colleague in rosier times.

Yet the captain batted for longer than he has in any innings on this tour — two hours 48 minutes — and his cover drives increasingly found the gaps after tea, bringing him several of his nine fours. If cricket really is played in the mind, his will have been far less cluttered last night.

It would be nice to think that Taylor's return to some sort of form overshadowed all else. Alas, the manner in which Chris Adams disputed his dismissal earlier in an eventful day was perturbing. Television replays showed that he had hit the ball, not with the edge of his bat but off the middle, when given out leg-before to Warne. The umpire, Vanburn Holder, was at fault and so were the Australians for the vociferous appealing. But that was not the point.

When he was at Repton, a school so renowned for its cricketing traditions that the great Sir Leonard Hutton sent his sons there, Adams would have been told, time after time, that a batsman has to accept the decision of the umpire. Instead, he argued first with Holder and then with the Australians, gesturing at them with his bat and then his fist when he did mooch off.

"I thought the ball hit his pad first and then his bat," Holder said. "Chris's reaction disappointed me and he has not apologised yet. Players have to accept umpires' decisions and sometimes we get them wrong. It will be mentioned in my match report."

Adams came close to being selected for the one-day internationals last month. He will find now that this kind of incident will not be forgotten easily.

The likelihood is that Derbyshire have already disciplined Adams. The chairman, cricket committee chairman, secretary, coach and captain met last night and told him of their decision. This will not be released until today, presumably because the club wishes first to discuss the incident with the England and Wales Cricket Board.

The rest of the day's play passed peaceably enough. Of Derbyshire's innings, May, a chunky opener from Chesterfield, made 67, his highest score, in his fourth match. Unafraid to attempt to hook the fast bowlers, he struck 11 fours. When on 57, he was dropped in somewhat comic circumstances when Blewett misjudged a swirling skier. And there was a fascinating period of play when Warne deployed numerous tricks against his compatriot, Jones.

The Derbyshire captain looked to use his feet to him at every opportunity, eventually losing his wicket when yards out of his ground.

Julian and Gillespie did not care for the slow pitch and a wind so strong that the bails had to be removed at one end, but they still collected five wickets between them.

Among these was Blackwell, a left hander making his debut. He, too, is from Chesterfield. Who says this county does not produce its own cricketers?

Dean Jones drops Mark Taylor with the Australia captain on two yesterday

DERBY SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIANS: First Innings

*M A Taylor c Aldred b DeFreitas	5
M T G Elliott c Adams b Dean	67
J L Langer lbw b DeFreitas	1
G S Blewett b Harris	121
S R Waugh c DeFreitas b Blackwell	43
M G Bevan b DeFreitas	56
†I A Healy not out	40
B P Julian not out	12
Extras (b 5, lb 2, nb 10)	17
Total (6 wkts dec)	362

S K Warne, A J Bichel and J N Gillespie did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-16, 3-147, 4-246, 5-260, 6-335

BOWLING: DeFreitas 14-2-61-3; Harris 16-2-70-1; Dean 16-1-76-1; Aldred 12-3-26-0; Clarke 8-0-45-0; Blackwell 15-1-57-1; Jones 4-0-20-0.

Second Innings

M T G Elliott b Harris	4
*M A Taylor not out	59
J L Langer lbw b Dean	12
M G Bevan not out	68
Extras (lb 3, nb 12)	15
Total (2 wkts)	148

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-35

BOWLING: DeFreitas 10-3-31-0; Harris 12-3-31-1; Blackwell 1-0-8-0; Dean 7-0-25-1; Aldred 8-1-30-0; Rollins 2-0-12-0, Clarke 4-1-8-0.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

A S Rollins lbw b Julian	15
M R May c Waugh b Julian	67
P Aldred b Gillespie	8
C J Adams lbw b Warne	7
*D M Jones b Warne	31
I Blackwell c Blewett b Julian	0
V P Clarke c and b Bevan	20
†K M Krikken c sub b Gillespie	6
P A J DeFreitas b Bevan	6
A J Harris not out	26
K J Dean not out	21
Extras (b 7, lb 6, w 3, nb 34)	50
Total (9 wkts dec)	257

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-77, 3-114, 4-158, 5-168, 6-168, 7-198, 8-204, 9-206.

BOWLING: Bichel 5-1-28-0; Julian 20-6-88-3; Gillespie 17-3-62-2; Warne 14-3-45-2; Bevan 9-4-21-2.

Umpires: V A Holder and R A White.

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CRICKET

Gallian's change of direction puts leaders on course

By Michael Henderson

LEICESTER (Leicestershire won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Leicestershire by five wickets

LANCASHIRE have started the season showing their customary disdain for the hard grind of championship cricket, but in the shorter game they remain the team to beat. This was an excellent victory, achieved against the clock after the loss of three early wickets, and they remain unbeaten after five rounds of the Axa Life League.

The man who led them home was Jason Gallian, who normally opens the innings but who dropped a place in the order yesterday to accommodate Michael Atherton. Gallian, who made 99 in the championship match on Saturday, recorded his second *successive Sunday hundred* as Lancashire prevailed with eight balls to spare.

When Gordon Parsons removed Atherton and John Crawley in the tenth over, to sniff a hat-trick that Graham Lloyd denied him, Lancashire were in trouble at 50 for three. This, though, is a side that bats long and deep, and knows how to win games from unpromising positions. Gallian added 78 in 12 overs with Lloyd, and another 128 in 17 overs with Neil Fairbrother, who reached an unbeaten half-century of admirable restraint.

The game ended in a most peculiar manner as Neil Johnson, the South African all-rounder, was no-balled by Barrie Leadbeater. The two runs took Lancashire to their target of 259 but Johnson bowled another ball before Fairbrother, who played it, told the umpires that the match had finished. Until then they had not realised.

Gallian just missed carrying his team home. He drove a return catch to Johnson the over before, to end a sequence that has brought him 259 runs in his past three Sunday innings. He made 101 not out, his maiden Sunday hundred, against Northamptonshire last week, and the week before he took an unbeaten 54 off Nottinghamshire. A batsman previously known for staunchness (a bit one-paced, if you prefer), he has suddenly become Billy Whizz.

He played very well here, driving handsomely and powerfully down the ground, and quick to pick up anything on his legs. He faced 100 balls, hit ten of them for four and whacked a full toss from Brimson for six. Nixon might have caught him down the legside when he was 60, and that miss summarised a poor fielding performance by Leicestershire.

Lloyd only made 38 but it was his eagerness to engage in the fight as soon as he came in that helped repair the innings. No sooner had Brimson, the left-arm spinner, come on, than he reverse-pulled him for two boundaries and swept another more conventionally. He perished seeking another reverse sweep but he had established the momentum that carried Gallian and Fairbrother forward.

Lloyd was not the only man to perish in the act of the reverse sweep. Johnson had got the Leicestershire innings off to a flying start but when he tried to lap Yates, the off spinner, he found Fairbrother at backward point.

That catch compensated for an absolute howler the previous over by Mike Watkinson, who took his place in the side after recovering from an arm injury that continues to keep him out of the championship side. Johnson hit Chapple to *mid-off* where Watkinson, who has an utterly dependable pair of hands, contrived to put down the most simple chance he has been offered in his life.

There was another curio shortly afterwards, when Warren Hegg accomplished a smart legside stumping off a wide. Vince Wells had not quite anchored his left foot, unbalanced as he was by the drift of Gallian's ball, but it was only through Roy Palmer's use of the third umpire that he lost his wicket. On other grounds, where umpires had no recourse to television equipment, the batsman would have survived.

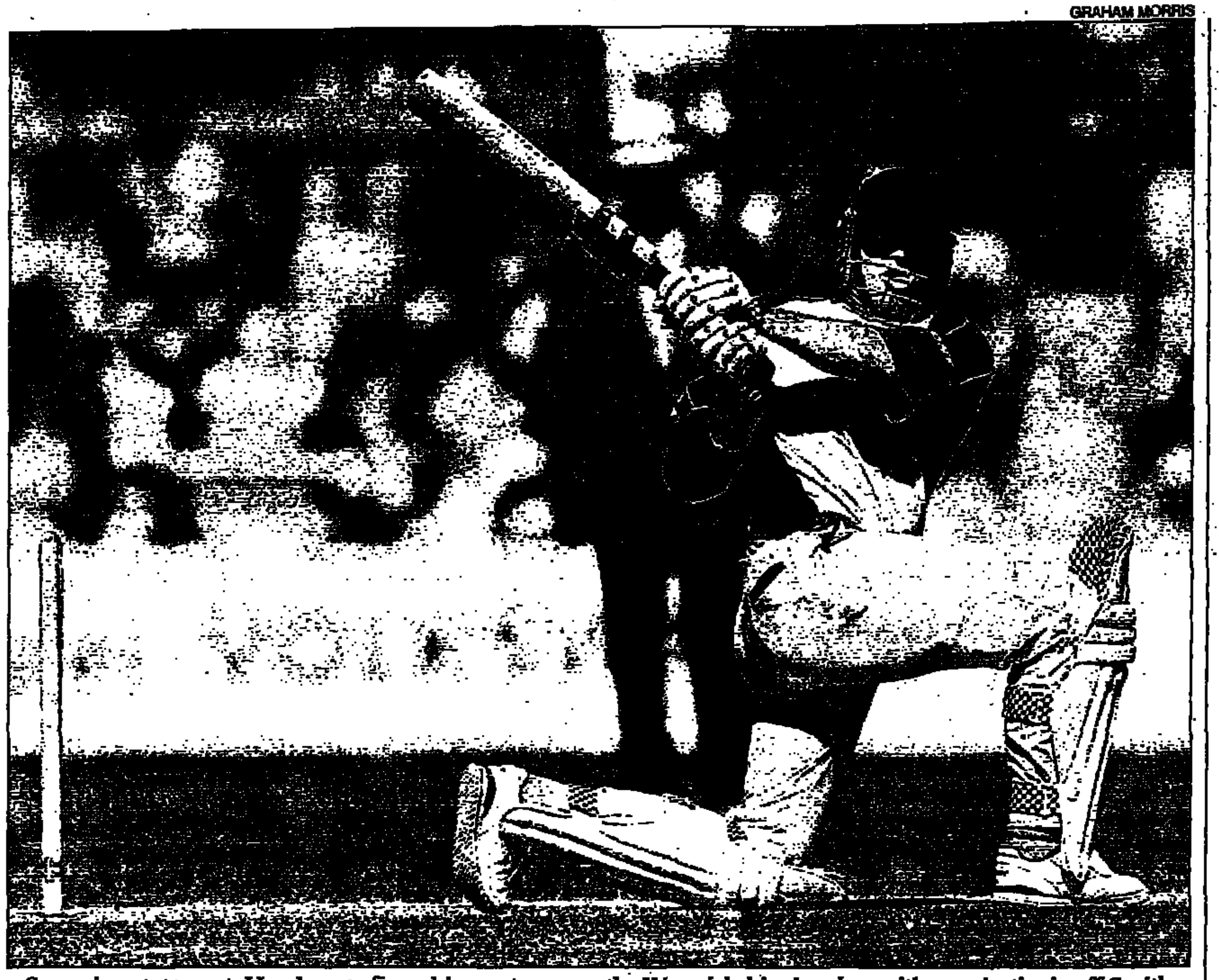
Leicestershire owed their total of 258 for five to Whitaker and Maddy. The pair added 144 in 19 overs and Maddy, whose 85 came from 70 balls, looked an impressive player. He fielded well, too, which is more than can be said of some of his team-mates.

TABLE

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts	RR
Lancashire (9)	5	5	0	0	0	20	15.90
Yorkshire (3)	5	4	1	0	0	16	12.13
Essex (17)	5	4	1	0	0	16	11.81
Kent (10)	5	4	1	0	0	16	10.15
Surrey (1)	5	3	1	0	1	14	1.52
Warwicks (4)	5	3	2	0	0	12	8.90
Glamorgan (13)	6	3	3	0	0	12	3.44
Northants (6)	5	2	2	0	1	10	1.93
Somerset (5)	6	2	3	0	1	10	-0.12
Worcs (8)	4	2	2	0	0	8	7.11
Notts (2)	5	2	3	0	0	8	-3.46
Leics (12)	5	2	3	0	0	8	-9.44
Middlesex (7)	5	2	3	0	0	8	-15.54
Gloucs (16)	4	1	2	0	1	6	15.29
Hampshire (15)	6	1	4	0	1	6	-13.21
Durham (18)	5	1	4	0	0	4	-10.81
Sussex (14)	5	1	4	0	0	4	-19.14
Derbyshire (11)	4	0	3	0	1	2	-11.93

(1996 positions in brackets)

GRAHAM MORRIS



Sweeping statement: Hayden confirms his mastery over the Warwickshire bowlers with a majestic six off Smith

Knight driven to distraction

By a Special Correspondent

SOUTHAMPTON (Warwickshire won toss): Hampshire (4pts) beat Warwickshire by 14 runs

HAMPSHIRE completed a thoroughly miserable day for Nick Knight, the Warwickshire captain, at Southampton yesterday as they ended a dismal record of 26 matches without a victory against county opposition in all competitions since August 12 last year.

An early-morning telephone call from David Graveney, the chairman of the England selectors, informing Knight that he would not be required for the Edgbaston Test this week got his day off to a gloomy start.

Knight was reluctant to discuss being dropped after eight consecutive Tests and his body language during Hampshire's innings suggested that his thoughts often strayed from this Axa Life League game.

Knight again led Warwickshire in the absence of the injured Tim Munton, but they appeared to be on auto-pilot for long periods as Knight allowed Dougie Brown, his most economical bowler, only six overs.

There was an unusual air of apathy about Warwickshire's out-cricket as they put down five important catches — although there were mitigating circumstances in an awkward, swirling wind — and generously donated 30 extras.

None of that should detract from a splendid 118 from Matthew Hayden, Hampshire's tall Australia left-hander, who is beginning to find his feet in county cricket after a conspicuously slow start to the season.

On Saturday he completed a career-best 235 not out in the county championship and, although he must have been exhausted after being on the field throughout the first three days of that contest, he showed no sign of flagging yesterday.

Hayden shared an opening stand of 185 in only 29 overs with the positive Giles White, who made 67, and was able to pull and drive with confidence on the flattest of pitches.

He struck 13 fours and three sixes, including one off Gladstone Small that struck the roof of a house on the opposite side of Northlands Road.

He was in full flow when he was unluckily run out backing up when a drive from Sean Udal was deflected onto the stumps at the bowler's end. Udal also proved a thorn in Warwickshire's side, having completed his maiden first-class century on Saturday, as he reached a valuable half-century in the last over, then took two important wickets.

Warwickshire were briefly encouraged by a belligerent 52 from Neil Smith, although he was given three lives.

Knight tamely clipped James Bovill to mid-on for 22 and Warwickshire slipped to 88 for 4 before Dominic Ostler (70) and Trevor Penney (31) staged a partial recovery with a swashbuckling stand of 96 for the fifth wicket.

The task of scoring 92 in the last ten overs proved beyond Warwickshire, despite a late flurry of sixes from Giles in his half-century. Bovill finished with Sunday-best figures of four for 44.

Vaughan and Byas quick to put Essex to the sword

By Simon Wilde

ILFORD (Essex won toss): Yorkshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

A BLAZING opening partnership of 146 in a mere 17 overs between David Byas and Michael Vaughan made Yorkshire's task of surpassing Essex's 262 for nine as straightforward as they could have reasonably hoped. They won with 20 balls to spare and were rarely in difficulties: unlike the championship match between the sides, it was a contest almost devoid of excitement, disappointingly, for a capacity crowd of 6,000.

Vaughan, who scored 66 from 57 balls to add to his century here last week, got Yorkshire off to a flying start with a fusillade of strokes against the new-ball pair of Ilott and Cowan. Cowan, who is in the thoughts of the England selectors, *did not* bowl badly, but was attacked so ruthlessly that he was withdrawn after bowling three overs for 28.

Byas caught the mood, being instrumental in Such's first three overs costing 31, and went on effortlessly to finish with 72 from 48 balls. Byas struck Such and Stuart Law for sixes and he also hit six fours; Vaughan hit six fours during a partnership that ran the Essex fielders ragged.

The only time Essex threatened to come back into the match was when Irani, who bowled his eight overs straight through with fire and passion, dismissed Hartley and Blakey in the same nine-ball over in which Parker also ran himself out. Irani had earlier dismissed Vaughan and taken a fine catch to remove Byas.

At 190 for five, Yorkshire were in theoretical danger of running out of wickets, but never overs. In the event, sensible batting from Lehmann, who also made a half-century, White and Gough ensured Essex suffered their first league defeat of the season.

Essex failed to make sufficient runs for the fast-scoring conditions. Although everyone made a start — the top nine all reached double figures — no one went on to make a big score or provide the innings with continuity. Law top-scored with 47 from 34 balls and gave his side an encouragingly bright start, he and Robinson kicking off with 73 in 12 overs.

It was a tempo Essex maintained but never improved upon and it their progress was too sedate. The best of the later batting came from Irani, with 36 from 33 balls, and Rollins, 32 from 25. Gough's pace apart, Yorkshire's bowling was nothing out of the ordinary, but they had the depth of resources — they used seven bowlers — to cover their deficiencies.

Cowdrey blows hot for Kent

By Richard Hobson

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss): Kent (4pts) beat Nottinghamshire by 46 runs

A COMMANDING half-century by Matthew Walker was eclipsed by an innings of even greater belligerence from Graham Cowdrey, who tore a hamstring in the process, as Kent continued their emphatic start to the season in one-day cricket.

They have lost just one of their first 11 fixtures and their total of 252 for seven was never in peril yesterday once Julian Thompson removed the off stump of Paul Johnson, just three overs into the Nottinghamshire reply.

The home side were more than usually compliant in their own downfall, dropping six catches, including Cowdrey three times during his unbeaten 81 from 43 balls. Indeed, on the day when Notts confirmed that they would be known as the Outlaws in the Axa Life League, from June 26, when they play Surrey under floodlights at the Oval, it became easy to consider that if Robin Hood's merry men had adopted such a slovenly approach to life outdoors, then the local legend would never have been born.

Five days earlier, Walker had taken the gold award for his 117 in the Benson and Hedges Cup win against Warwickshire. Here again, he gave the innings an early impetus as he reached fifty in the twelfth over.

Oram checked the flow of runs, removing Fleming and then having Walker dropped from his first two deliveries but Walker progressed to 78 from 65 balls, with nine fours and a six, before pulling Evans to Tolley at deep square-leg.

Just 24 were taken from the next nine overs in which Bates, the off-spinner, removed Llong, Ward and Wells. Yet, if Notts felt that they could remain in the ascendency, then Cowdrey proved them brutally wrong.

He added 58 in eight overs with Ealham and merely grew in authority after the dismissal of his partner. Dropped by Johnson on 12 and Evans on 31, he stroked the latter over cover and pulled Tolley for six to pass fifty and, after suffering his injury as he stretched to complete a run, proved sufficiently mobile to strike two further sixes, as his runner looked on in admiration.

In all, 43 runs came from the last 15 balls and the only consolation for Nottinghamshire was a maiden one-day fifty by Gie.

Follett puts wind up Middlesex

By Pat Gibson

LORD'S (Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire (4pts) beat Middlesex by 67 runs

THE wind whistling through the gap between the Compton and Edrich stands was fierce enough to whip off the bails repeatedly, rip up the matting protecting the Test pitch and even bring down the ceiling just outside the press box, but that does not explain why the Middlesex batting should have been blown away like it was yesterday.

Their bowlers had stood up to the battering well enough, containing Northamptonshire to a far from intimidating 198 for seven, yet, inside eight overs, their innings was a broken reed, mown down by Taylor, launching his left-arm swing into the gusts, and Follett, racing in from the Nursery End as though he had a tornado behind him.

Kallis had already been struck painfully on the right elbow by Taylor when he played on trying to force him off the back foot, and Weekes was beaten and bowled by the sheer pace of a full toss from Follett. Ramprakash was then leg-before to Taylor and Gatting went the same way to Follett, giving Middlesex further cause to regret his decision to leave them after he had taken 23 wickets at 19 runs apiece in his four championship matches last season.

At 21 for four, Middlesex were doomed, although Pooley put a brave face on their plight by making 55 off 61 balls, including four fours and a six over the short boundary on the Tavern side, and the ever faithful Brown gave him determined support in a fifth-wicket stand of 55.

Both of them fell to Curran, Brown caught behind and Pooley leg-before, and Curran went on to bowl Moffat and have Dutch caught at cover to finish with four for 36 as Middlesex subsided to defeat. That completed another satisfying day's work for the enduring Curran. All those bright young things on the Northamptonshire staff are going to have to fight to displace him. He gave their innings its only real impetus with 66 off 68 balls, including seven fours.

His only decent support came from Penberthy, who went in first and stayed to make 55 off 88 balls with only three boundaries. He and Curran put on 93 in 16 overs, but after that the batting, and the match, went into steep decline.

Boon finishes second in duel with Waqar

By Barney Spender

PONTYPRIDD (Glamorgan won toss): Glamorgan (4pts) beat Durham by six wickets

IT HARDLY seems fair to describe David Boon as anyone's rabbit but the Durham captain must be sick of the sight of Waqar Younis, who dismissed him for the third time in three days during yesterday's Axa Life League game at Pontypridd.

After removing him twice in the county championship game, which concludes today, Waqar completed his "hat-trick" when Boon, trying to work the ball through the leg side, was trapped in front of his stumps in the fifth over of the match. With John Morris already back in the pavilion, caught behind in Waqar's first over, Durham were always struggling to post a competitive target on this small ground.

They were restricted by some accurate Glamorgan bowling and some fine fielding, notably from Adrian Dale on the boundary and Matthew Maynard, who took three catches, two of them quite outstanding.

In the end they scrambled to 183 for eight thanks to Nick Speak, who made an unbeaten 74. It could hardly be described as a memorable one-day innings, but then Speak is not a roistering kind of batsman, although he did break free to hammer Croft for a straight six to raise his 50.

The Glamorgan reply began with a blaze of strokes from Croft, revelling in his role as pinch-hitter. He tore into the bowlers, particularly Saggers, who conceded a single in his first over and 36 from his next three.

Croft and Hugh Morris raised 50 in the seventh over and took the score to 79 in the eleventh before both fell in successive overs from Simon Brown.

Maynard and Dale, victim of a silly run out, also departed before an unbroken partnership of 64 between Cottey and James took the Welsh county home with 9.1 overs to spare.

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YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Axa Life League

Essex v Yorkshire

ILFORD (Essex won toss) Yorkshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

ESSEX

D D J Robinson b Stemp	30
S G Law b White	47
*N Hussain c Blakey b Hartley	29
R C Irani c Byas b Hamilton	36
A P Grayson c White b Vaughan	21
S D Peters c Blakey b Vaughan	15
D R Law b Gough	19
†R J Rollins c Silverwood b Vaughan	32
M C Ilott c Hartley b Gough	12
A P Cowan not out	2
P M Such not out	2
Extras (lb 8, w 7, nb 2)	17
Total (9 wkts, 40 overs)	262

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-73, 2-87, 3-145, 4-156, 5-186, 6-193, 7-221, 8-254, 9-259

BOWLING: Silverwood 4-0-35-0; Gough 8-0-41-2; Stemp 8-0-52-1; White 8-0-31-1; Hartley 4-0-27-1; Hamilton 2-0-20-1; Vaughan 6-0-48-3.

YORKSHIRE

*D Byas c Irani b Grayson	72
M P Vaughan b Irani	66
D S Lehmann not out	58
P J Hartley b Irani	15
†R J Blakey c Rollins b Irani	0
B Parker run out	0
C White b Grayson	14
D Gough not out	13
Extras (b 5, lb 9 w 4, nb 8)	26
Total (6 wkts, 36.5 overs)	264

G M Hamilton, C E W Silverwood and R D Stemp did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-146, 2-148, 3-186, 4-189, 5-190, 6-234.

BOWLING: Ilott 8-0-37-0; Cowan 7.5-0-61-0; Such 3-0-31-0; S G Law 2-0-23-0; Irani 8-0-54-3; Grayson 8-0-44-2.

Umpires: G Sharp and J F Steele.

Glamorgan v Durham

PONTYPRIDD (Glamorgan won toss) Glamorgan (4pts) beat Durham by six wickets

DURHAM

E Morris c Shaw b Waqar	0
†M P Speight c Shaw b Thomas	30
*D C Boon lbw b Waqar	17
N J Speak not out	74
J J B Lewis c Maynard b Thomas	8
P D Collingwood c Maynard b Butcher	11
M J Foster c Maynard b Butcher	18
J Boiling b Watkin	4
S J E Brown c and b Watkin	5
M J Saggers not out	5
Extras (lb 1, w 8, nb 2)	11
Total (8 wkts, 40 overs)	183

A Walker did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-27, 3-61, 4-87, 5-107, 6-139, 7-160, 8-172

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 7-1-28-2; Watkin 8-0-41-2; Thomas 8-0-31-2; Dale 4-0-15-0; Croft 8-0-39-0; Butcher 5-0-28-2

GLAMORGAN

R D B Croft c Speight b Brown	46
H Morris c Speight b Brown	22
A Dale run out	14
*M P Maynard c Boiling b Foster	22
P A Cottey not out	21
S P James not out	45
Extras (lb 6, w 4, nb 4)	14
Total (4 wkts, 30.5 overs)	184

G P Butcher, †A D Shaw, S D Thomas, Waqar Younis and S L Watkin did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-79, 2-82, 3-116, 4-120

BOWLING: Brown 8-0-43-2; Saggers 7-0-52-0; Walker 6-0-25-0; Foster 4-0-26-1; Boiling 5.5-0-32-0

Umpires: A A Jones and B J Meyer

Hampshire v Warwickshire

SOUTHAMPTON (Warwickshire won toss) Hampshire (4pts) beat Warwickshire by 14 runs

HAMPSHIRE

G W White c Hemp b Smith	67
M L Hayden run out	118
S D Udal not out	50
*R A Smith c Welch b Edmond	11
J S Laney run out	2
S J Renshaw not out	0
Extras (lb 19, w 9, nb 2)	30
Total (4 wkts, 40 overs)	278

K D James, W S Kendall, †A N Aymes, R J Maru and J N B Bovill did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-185, 2-217, 3-265, 4-277

BOWLING: Welch 4-0-28-0; Brown 6-0-14-0; Edmond 8-0-50-1; Small 8-0-50-0; Smith 8-0-68-1; Giles 6-0-49-0

WARWICKSHIRE

N V Knight c Smith b Bovill	22
*N M K Smith c sub b Bovill	52
D R Brown run out	3
D L Hemp lbw b Bovill	3
D P Ostler st Aymes b Udal	70
T L Penney c sub b Udal	32
G Welch c Kendall b Bovill	12
A F Giles c Hayden b Renshaw	57
M D Edmond c Renshaw b Maru	5
†T Frost run out	0
G C Small not out	2
Extras (lb 2, w 2, nb 2)	6
Total (39.4 overs)	264

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-72, 2-76, 3-81, 4-88, 5-184, 6-199, 7-201, 8-215, 9-242

BOWLING: Maru 9-0-78-1; Renshaw 6.4-0-43-1; Bovill 8-0-44-4; Udal 8-0-33-2; James 8-0-64-0

Umpires: J W Holder and A G T Whitehead

Leicestershire v Lancashire

LEICESTER (Leicestershire won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Leicestershire by five wickets

LEICESTERSHIRE

N C Johnson c Fairbrother b Yates	31
V J Wells st Hegg b Gallian	34
*J J Whitaker b Yates	74
D L Maddy c Martin b Austin	85
B F Smith b Chapple	3
A Habib not out	11
†P A Nixon not out	5
Extras (lb 9, w 6)	15
Total (5 wkts, 40 overs)	258

A R K Pierson, G J Parsons, M T Brimson and A D Mullally did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-71, 3-215, 4-223, 5-249

BOWLING: Austin 8-0-54-1; Martin 7-0-31-0; Chapple 8-0-67-1; Yates 8-0-46-2; Gallian 5-0-24-1; Watkinson 4-0-27-0

LANCASHIRE

*M Watkinson c Pierson b Mullally	18
M A Atherton c Whitaker b Parsons	17
J E R Gallian c and b Johnson	104
J P Crawley c Nixon b Parsons	0
G D Lloyd c Nixon b Brimson	38
N H Fairbrother not out	50
I D Austin not out	1
Extras (b 2, lb 11, w 12, nb 6)	31
Total (5 wkts, 38.4 overs)	259

G Chapple, †W K Hegg, G Yates and P J Martin did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-50, 3-50, 4-128, 5-256

BOWLING: Mullally 8-0-44-1; Parsons 8-0-27-2; Johnson 6.4-0-53-1; Brimson 5-0-44-1; Wells 7-0-45-0; Pierson 1-0-11-0; Maddy 3-0-22-0

Umpires: B Leadbeater and R Palmer.

Middlesex v Northamptonshire

LORD'S (Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire (4pts) beat Middlesex by 67 runs

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

*R J Bailey b Hewitt	10
A L Penberthy b Dutch	53
K M Curran b Blanchett	66
D J Capel lbw b Fraser	6
T C Walton b Fraser	1
D J G Sales lbw b Weekes	13
†R J Warren c Gatting b Hewitt	12
J N Snape not out	8
J E Emburey not out	4
Extras (b 4, lb 13, w 8)	25
Total (7 wkts, 40 overs)	198

D Follett and J P Taylor did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-122, 3-137, 4-139, 5-165, 6-184, 7-187.

BOWLING: Fraser 8-1-28-2; Hewitt 8-0-31-2; Weekes 8-0-25-1; Dutch 8-0-46-1; Blanchett 8-0-51-1.

MIDDLESEX

J H Kallis b Taylor	6
P N Weekes b Follett	6
*M R Ramprakash lbw b Taylor	3
M W Gatting lbw b Follett	0
J C Pooley lbw b Curran	56
†K R Brown c Warren b Curran	15
S P Moffat b Curran	18
K P Dutch c Snape b Curran	4
J P Hewitt run out	3
A R C Fraser c Bailey b Emburey	2
I N Blanchett not out	1
Extras (lb 14, w 4)	18
Total (33.5 overs)	131

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-15, 3-17, 4-21, 5-76, 6-112, 7-119, 8-123, 9-130

BOWLING: Taylor 6-1-13-2; Follett 8-0-28-2; Emburey 6.5-0-24-1; Curran 8-0-36-4; Snape 5-0-16-0

Umpires: R Julian and J D Bond

Nottinghamshire v Kent

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss) Kent (4pts) beat Nottinghamshire by 46 runs

KENT

M V Fleming c Archer b Oram	10
M J Walker c Tolley b Evans	78
T R Ward c Gie b Bates	29
N J Llong c Archer b Bates	6
A P Wells c Gie b Bates	6
M A Ealham st Noon b Tolley	27
G R Cowdrey not out	81
P A Strang run out	3
*†S A Marsh not out	1
Extras (b 1, lb 4 w 6)	11
Total (7 wkts, 40 overs)	252

M J McCague and J B D Thompson did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-46, 2-112, 3-120, 4-134, 5-136, 6-194, 7-209

BOWLING: Tolley 6-0-50-1; Evans 8-0-66-1; Oram 8-0-36-1; Bowen 5-0-38-0; Bates 8-0-33-3; Dowman 5-0-24-0

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

M P Dowman b Thompson	0
A A Metcalfe c Llong b Ealham	11
*P Johnson b Thompson	6
G F Archer b Strang	31
N A Gie not out	75
C M Tolley lbw b McCague	0
†W M Noon c Llong b Fleming	31
K P Evans run out	8
R T Bates c Wells b Fleming	9
M N Bowen run out	14
Extras (lb 10, w 5, nb 6)	21
Total (9 wkts, 40 overs)	206

A R Oram did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-11, 3-29, 4-86, 5-87, 6-136, 7-163, 8-180, 9-206

BOWLING: Thompson 8-0-23-2; Ealham 5-1-17-1; Strang 8-0-29-1; McCague 4-0-18-1; Fleming 8-0-60-2; Llong 7-0-49-0

Umpires: A Clarkson and N T Plews

Worcestershire v Somerset

WORCESTER (Worcestershire won toss): Worcestershire (4pts) beat Somerset by 85 runs

WORCESTERSHIRE

*T M Moody lbw b Caddick	23
V S Solanki b Kerr	26
G A Hick not out	119
G R Haynes c Trump b Rose	48
D A Leatherdale c Bowler b Caddick	18
W P C Weston not out	11
Extras (lb 6, w 5, nb 6)	17
Total (4 wkts, 40 overs)	262

K R Spiring, S R Lampitt, †S J Rhodes, R J Chapman and A Sheriyar did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-54, 3-152, 4-204

BOWLING: Rose 8-1-38-1; Parsons 6-0-31-0; Caddick 8-0-45-2; Kerr 8-0-83-1; Burns 3-0-24-0; Trump 7-0-55-0

SOMERSET

M N Lathwell run out	13
M Burns c Rhodes b Haynes	12
†R J Turner run out	67
G D Rose c Rhodes b Lampitt	16
R J Harden b Lampitt	7
*P D Bowler b Sheriyar	30
P C L Holloway not out	12
K A Parsons run out	11
J I D Kerr run out	1
A R Caddick b Haynes	0
H R J Trump run out	0
Extras (lb 3, w 5)	8
Total (32.2 overs)	177

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-27, 3-73, 4-93, 5-152, 6-155, 7-168, 8-176, 9-176

BOWLING: Chapman 5-0-30-0; Haynes 7-0-29-2; Lampitt 8-0-32-2; Sheriyar 6-0-36-1; Hick 3-0-25-0; Leatherdale 3.2-0-22-0

Umpires: H D Bird and D J Constant.

Hick finds form with predictable timing

By Derek Hodgson

WORCESTER (Worcestershire won toss): Worcestershire (4pts) beat Somerset by 85 runs

ONE man attuned to the moods of New Road predicted: "Hick will get 100 today." The inference was that the deposed England batsman would not let a Test selection pass by without comment. The century duly arrived, off 82 balls, his first score over 50 in competitive cricket this summer.

Not that the innings was a sudden glorious burst of form. Hick began hesitantly, almost timidly, as though the power house had become a hollow shell. Only 12 runs came in six overs before Kerr over-pitched and the ball fell majestically into the lower seating of the pavillion.

Fifty came off 52 balls and when Trump offered some optimistic off-spin, he was dispatched for 6-4-6-1 in one sequence. The 100 came in the 39th over, Hick celebrating by lifting Kerr for two more sixes.

David Houghton, his county coach and fellow Zimbabwean, revealed: "I think he has found it quite hard going this summer.

"He was desperate for runs to get back in the England side, perhaps a little bit too desperate instead of being nice and relaxed at the crease.

"He started to get into what people would call a bad patch. Suddenly a batsman loses confidence and something like this innings is probably the ideal remedy."

Hick's eventual 119 not out included six sixes and six fours on a day when, for the first time in seven seasons, his name was not amongst those in England's 12 for the first Test of the summer.

On a straw-coloured pitch with an outfield like green marble, it was always going to be a glorious first of June for batsmen. With Mushtaq rested, only Caddick was able to put any brake upon Worcestershire ambitions. After being struck for four by Moody, he fired the next ball into the block hole and the Australian failed to get his bat down in time.

Haynes, with 48 off 54 balls and Leatherdale kept up the impetus and once Hick had moved into top gear Somerset suffered, their bowling not best supported by some scuffling ground fielding that will have brought hard words from the coach.

A target of 263 was attainable in these conditions but Somerset's cause was not helped by the departure of Burns, the pinch hitter, in the fourth over, when trying to steer Haynes for third man. Worse followed when Lathwell, playing off his legs, was sent back by Turner and was stranded in the middle of the pitch to leave them 27 for two.

Turner and Rose then made a reasonable recovery and had all but caught up with the rate in the 15th over when Rose went to cut Lampitt and Rhodes swooped again begind the wicket. Harden fell when trying to accelerate the scoring again and when Bowler, the Somerset captain, was bowled at 152, the game was up.

هكذا من الأصل

RUGBY UNION: STIMPSON AND TOWNSEND ENHANCE REPUTATIONS IN VICTORY OVER WESTERN PROVINCE BUT GRAYSON TO FLY HOME

Lions earn respect for playing fast and not loose

Western Province	21
British Isles	38

FROM DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT
IN CAPE TOWN

FOR years the southern-hemisphere countries have grown accustomed to disparaging British back play, so it comes as a pleasant surprise to hear open admiration for the brand of rugby being played by the British Isles. Even more so when that approach means one further step in the development of a *Lions* team which can go head to head with the country that holds the World Cup.

The hints of an ambitious handling game that were apparent in the opening match of the tour in Port Elizabeth a week earlier were confirmed on Saturday amid the towering stands of the historic Newlands ground here. Western Province is a name to conjure with and, though the Lions did not pass their test with all colours flying, they were right to enjoy the many positive aspects that their third outing offered.

In particular, they took a substantial step along the road to answering the dilemma of their most effective combination at full back and stand-off half. By kicking seven goals from eight attempts, Tim Stimpson demonstrated a clear alternative to the more established international goalkicker, Neil Jenkins; by adding a solid tactical base to his acknowledged gifts as a runner and distributor, Gregor Townsend, at stand-off half, showed a management of the game which has not always been apparent.

Stimpson had always been first-choice kicker for his previous clubs before he joined Newcastle last year, so to that extent he was only resuming a skill left fallow by the presence at Kingston Park of Rob Andrew. "Every game is important for a variety of things, but this was one where I went well with the boot," the full back said. "Part of that comes from the help I have had from the other kickers, including Neil, and from Dave Alred's coaching."

It was not merely that Stimpson kicked 18 points on a hot afternoon when, had the Lions lost concentration in mid-match, the game might have leaked away from them, but the manner in which he did so: his goals soared through the uprights from both touchlines, giving confidence to forwards who, despite the overall pace of the game, lasted better than their hosts, who failed to score during the final half-hour.

Significantly, the Lions forwards readily admit the need to play an expansive game and, though their efforts suffered in the set scrums, they are coming to terms with the playing philosophy that Ian McGeechan, their coach, expounds. He believes his tight forwards must accept the need for a fluid game not as a matter of convenience but as the basis to their entire approach and he was delighted to hear Martin Johnson, the captain, express that view.

"That's the game we want to play, it's how the world game is going," Johnson said. "That game was tougher than anything we have had in the five nations', in my experience, ever." It is beneficial for the Lions to play under such pressure because only then will they refine their handling.

Yet Dick Muir and Harry Viljoen, respectively the captain and coach of Western Province, were united in their appreciation of the fast game played by their opponents, and, with greater accuracy and better decision-making, the Lions might have scored another four tries.

As it was, they were ten points up in nearly as many minutes. Stimpson's opening volley was followed by a drive by Shaw that created the space for Howley and Guscott to send Bentley over. The same three backs were involved when Western Province, running out of defence, lost possession and room was created for Tait.

In between, however, Muir scored two tries for Western Province, both from heavy scrummage pressure on the Lions line and the desire to search for tries rather than take penalty kicks at goal. When Van Heerden, a dependable lock whose all-round game will surely earn him a place in the national squad to be named today, won a lineout on the Lions 22, Muir was also able to force the half-break from which Aitken broke into a clear field and Brink scored, the left-footed Montgomery giving his side a 21-18 lead.

Western Province could not force the issue, however. Not one of their speedy backs could find sufficient space and, though Small rounded Bentley with his one opportunity, the fiery Springbok wing spent a frustrating afternoon in verbal skirmishing with the Englishman. Stimpson punished offside twice to restore the lead and Howley, bright as a diamond, cut through midfield and delivered a scoring pass to Evans.

Nor were the Lions content to close down the match in the final minutes to protect their ten-point lead. Townsend's long pass would have put Greenwood clear had not the centre, a late replacement, dropped the ball: instead, Townsend's tackle on Montgomery created a loose ball that Hill sidefooted to the left, where Bentley collected the easiest of scores.

SCORERS: Western Province: Tries: Muir (2), Brink. Conversions: Montgomery (3) British Isles. Tries: Bentley (2), Tait, Evans. Conversions: Stimpson (3). Penalty goals: Stimpson (4)

WESTERN PROVINCE: J Swart, J Small, R Fleck, R Muir (captain), S Berridge; P Montgomery, S Hatley; G Pagel, A Paterson, K Andrews, R Brink, F van Heerden, H Louw, C Krige, A Aitken. Pagel replaced by A van der Linde (57min), Krige replaced by R Skinstad (65), Muir temporarily replaced by L Koen (57-68)

BRITISH ISLES XV: T Stimpson (Newcastle and England), I Evans (Llanelli and Wales), J Guscott (Bath and England), A Tait (Newcastle and Scotland), J Bentley (Newcastle and England); G Townsend (Northampton and Scotland), R Howley (Cardiff and Wales), G Rowntree (Leicester and England), B Williams (Richmond and Wales), J Leonard (Harlequins and England), L Dallaglio (Wasps and England), M Johnson (Leicester and England, captain), S Shaw (Bristol and England), R Hill (Saracens and England), T Rodber (Northampton/Army and England). Rodber replaced by S Quinnell (Richmond and Wales, 63); Tait replaced by W Greenwood (Leicester, 73)

Referee: A Schoonwinkel (Free State).

Williams, the British Isles hooker, takes on the Western Province defence, with Leonard in support. Photograph: David Rogers/Allsport

Catt call as replacement

BY DAVID HANDS AND MARK SOUSTER

THE pleasure the British Lions have taken from their success in Cape Town was diluted even as they prepared for yesterday's flight to Johannesburg: Paul Grayson, the Northampton stand-off half, becomes the first player requiring replacement on the tour in circumstances which suggest he should not have travelled in the first place.

The management have asked for Mike Catt, of Bath, to be released from England's tour to Argentina, which has a week to run, and hope that he will arrive in South Africa on Wednesday. Catt missed Lions selection by a whisker, but scored 21 points for England during their victory over Argentina in Buenos Aires on Saturday — and could find himself facing Northern Transvaal next weekend.

Catt said: "I am really quite shocked. It is the ultimate ambition for any player in the United Kingdom to go on a Lions tour. Hopefully, I can take this chance with both hands."

Grayson's tour has been undermined by his prolonged absence from rugby during March and April, when he was recovering from a hip injury. When he resumed goal-kicking at home, he strained a thigh muscle but was passed fit when the Lions gathered in Weybridge; however, in training last Tuesday, he sustained a similar injury but chose not to mention it, playing against Border the next day and struggling on a soft, slippery surface.

"Paul played in that match without reporting the injury," Fran Cotton, the manager, said. "Sometimes emotion takes over from clear thought processes and that showed in his performance." No disciplinary action will be taken against the player for what might be considered, in a professional context, poor judgment, but he will not receive his full tour fee of £10,000.

"It's more annoying in that I feel perfectly all right and fit to run around," Grayson said. "It's just that, when I come to a flat-out performance, it doesn't hold up. It's not like I'm going home with something that definitely rules you out. I'll have to find out what's wrong, have another scan and see if there is any extra damage."

Meanwhile, England have sent for Steve Diamond, the Sale hooker, as a replacement for Phil Greening, who was concussed against Argentina on Saturday and will take no further part in the tour. Diamond, 29, becomes the fifth Sale player in the party. He is expected to arrive in Argentina on Wednesday. Will Green, the Wasps prop, is expected to arrive today as cover for John Mallett, who has a back injury.

Auckland's success may inspire S Africa

THE legitimate claims made by Auckland Blues to be the best provincial team in the world could receive an even sterner examination when the Super 12 tournament resumes in the southern hemisphere next year (David Hands writes). Having overcome the event's surprise package, ACT Brumbies, 23-7 in the final at a rain-soaked Eden Park on Saturday, Auckland may find that South Africa will flatter them by imitation.

A proposal will be discussed this week by the executive of the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) to create four regional teams, involving the country's best players, for 1998. Rian Oberholzer, the Sarfu chief executive, seeks an amalgamation of provinces to replace the four most successful Currie Cup provinces in the Super 12. This would expose those players to a higher level of competition and broaden the base for international selection.

The Blues will not concern themselves with that just yet. They retained the trophy against possibly the most innovative team in the competition with a display of inspired defence and meticulous preparation. That they weaved their spells as well as they did in the heavy conditions before easing off in the final quarter was remarkable and their success is likely to promote Rod McQueen to the position of national coach next year.

SCORERS: Auckland Blues: Tries: Dowd, Jones. Conversions: Cashmore (2). Penalty goals: Cashmore (3). ACT Brumbies: Try: Roff. Conversion: Roff

Fluent England exceed Rowell's expectations

Argentina	20
England	46

FROM MARK SOUSTER
IN BUENOS AIRES

DURING the past fortnight, Jack Rowell has compared England's foray to South America to a mystery tour, which might or might not lead towards World Cup success in 1999 with him in the driving seat. The coach may have taken the odd wrong turn during his stewardship, but what this six-try defeat of Argentina proves is that he, and English rugby, are heading in the right direction.

This was a considerable achievement and a marvellous advertisement for the national game — a watershed even. Rowell now knows that he has at his disposal up to 30 players who will have proved themselves at international level by the time that the World Cup squad is picked. To beat Argentina so decisively in their own backyard on Saturday underlines the strength in depth in the English game.

The margin and manner of victory will also have turned heads in South Africa, where 18 English players are with the British Isles — a fact alluded to by Adedayo Adebayo, the scorer of two tries. "I am glad I am on this tour," he said. "I need to cement my England future, that is the long term. The Lions is short term, and I need to impress Jack."

The so-called second string, including the six new caps who started the game and Richard Cockerill, a replacement for the injured Phil Greening, seized their chance in a manner that not even Rowell, who described the performance as one of England's "best ever", could have imagined.

"This is a major uplift for us, a major stride forward, but Argentina will come back very strongly," Rowell said. Phil de Glanville, the captain, said: "This was absolutely crucial for us. We need to crown it now by winning both Tests. We were playing within ourselves when we started, but as soon as we cast off the shackles we reaped dividends."

Diprose: outstanding

In front of a raucous 20,000 crowd in the Ferrocarril Oeste stadium, England were under relentless pressure in the opening period. However, once they had reorganised their defensive alignment and stopped committing their forces to the blind side — leaving the threequarters exposed to the bullocking Argentina loose forwards, whose runs created overlaps from which Quesada and Arbizu scored — England prospered. They won better ball from the set-pieces and the loose, which enabled them to develop the running game that has served them admirably on tour.

In the early exchanges, when England scored a try by Greenstock against the run of play after Catt's trademark chip and chase, Tony Diprose was outstanding. The Saracens No 8, whose understanding with Bracken was pivotal, won several balls on the deck and turned opponents in the tackle. He also scored the injury-time try that gave England a 17-13 interval lead, from which they never looked back.

Argentina, attempting a loose, expansive game for which their stamina did not allow, played into England's hands and, by half-time, were out on their feet. England sensed it and went for the jugular. In ten heady minutes, Adebayo, Clarke and Catt scored in a blur of free-flowing rugby.

SCORERS: Argentina: Tries: Quesada, Arbizu, Solari. Conversion: Quesada. Dropped goal: Quesada. England: Tries: Adebayo (2), Greenstock, Diprose, Clarke, Catt. Conversions: Catt (5). Penalty goals: Catt (2).

ARGENTINA: E Jurado (Rosario); T Solari (Hindu), E Simone (Liceo Naval), L Arbizu (Belgrano AC, captain), F Soler (Tala); G Quesada (Hindu), N Fernandez Miranda (Hindu); M Reggiardo (Castres), F Méndez (Bath), R Grau (Gauteng), R Martin (San Isidro), G Llanes (Bath), P Sporleder (Curupayti), P J Camerlinckx (Regatas Bella Vista), P Bouza (Duendes). Mendez replaced by C Promanzio (Duendes) 38min, Sporleder replaced by I Fernandez Lobbe (Liceo Naval) 65, Reggiardo replaced by O Hasan (Natacion) 70.

ENGLAND: J Mallinder (Sale); J M Sleightholme (Bath), N J J Greenstock (Wasps), P R De Glanville (Bath, captain), A Adebayo (Bath); M J Catt (Bath), K P P Bracken (Saracens); K Yates (Bath), P B T Greening (Gloucester), D J Garforth (Leicester), M Corry (Bristol), N C Redman (Bath), M Haag (Bath), B B Clarke (Richmond), A J Diprose (Saracens). Greening replaced by R Cockerill (Leicester) 25; Corry replaced by C M A Sheasby (Wasps) 59.

Referee: I Rogers (South Africa)

GOLF

McFarlane ends 18-year wait for first victory

From Mel Webb in Hamburg

A CAREER in which talent has never been matched by achievement suddenly and surprisingly bore fruit here yesterday for Ross McFarlane, who claimed his maiden PGA European Tour victory in the Tournament Players' Championship of Europe with a final round of 71 and a total of 282, six under par.

Players with better records — men such as Howard Clark, 12 times a European winner, Gordon Brand Jr, who has eight victories to his name, and Anders Forsbrand, who has won six times — were reduced to the roles of gallant yet ultimately helpless bystanders yielding to the vicious, swirling winds that howled round Gut Kaden.

McFarlane, who by winning £125,000 gave himself a belated birthday present — he passed 36 last week — was tested to the boundaries of his skill and the limits of his character by conditions that approached the impossible at times.

If the rest of his golfing life up to this, its most crucial moment, had decided his performance, he would not have won. Nobody scanning the draw sheet and trying to find a winner from the last few groups on the course yesterday morning would have guessed that the golf of a champion was going to be drawn from this cheerful, slightly round-shouldered son of Manchester.

McFarlane has one of the most distinctive walks on the European Tour. Once seen, it is not easily forgotten. But, after the defining moment of a career that has touched many lows and precious few high points, his gait had just a hint of a swagger about it. He was entitled to it, for victory on today's European Tour is not a feat easily achieved.

"I'm not quite sure how I'm supposed to feel," he said as he lifted a beer bottle to his lips with a hand that was still shaking slightly with the emotion of it all. "It's fantastic. I'm sure it will begin to sink in sooner or later, but all I feel right now is excited."

McFarlane: lucrative win

After 18 years of trying, suddenly a good deal more than just excitement awaits him now; for a start, a five-year Tour exemption, priceless for a man who as recently as 1993 was forced to go back to the qualifying school to get his playing rights back.

He had to call on all those years of experience as, one by one, challengers sprang out of the pack. Brand Jr went into the lead on seven under par when he sank his second birdie putt of the day on the 6th, and held that advantage to the moment he missed a four-foot putt for par on the 13th.

Up to then the Bristol-based Scot had looked the likely winner. Surely he would hold on; he had trodden the victory path before. He knew how to win and, if he forgot, there was always Forsbrand, the Swede who remains an enigma even deep into his thirties, to take up the baton.

Few would have given McFarlane a second thought as the tournament moved towards its closing stages. If he was a contender at all, the double-bogey six he had after driving into a ditch on the 10th seemed certain to eliminate him from the contest.

This, however, was a man on a mission, and, if it looked an impossible one as he trudged off that 10th green, it became possible, then probable, then highly likely as he birdied the next three holes with putts of ten, 15 and 25 feet, overtaking Brand Jr, his playing partner, as he did so. He was never again headed.

Brand Jr was eventually to finish joint second with Forsbrand, a shot behind McFarlane, while the most significant move came from Darren Clarke, who had a 69, the best score of the day, to finish fourth. Clarke now has 375,451 Ryder Cup points and has confirmed his place in the team. Miguel Angel Martín, so consistent, also edged 25,000 points closer to a place.

All of these men had reason to be pleased last night. They had achieved much in this windswept corner of northern Germany and went away happy. After they had all gone, McFarlane was still savouring his big moment. His 15 minutes of fame had stretched into hours; he was not willing to let it go just yet.

HAMBURG DETAILS

LEADING FINAL SCORES (GB and Ire unless stated): 282: R McFarlane 70, 73, 68, 71. 283: G Brand Jr 72, 72, 67, 72; A Forsbrand (Swe) 73, 68, 69, 73. 284: D Clarke 74, 72, 68, 70. 285: M-A Martin (Sp) 69, 71, 76, 69; R Wessels (SA) 70, 75, 70, 70; R Russell 72, 72, 70, 71; P McGinley 72, 73, 66, 74. 286: R Allenby (Aus) 76, 70, 70, 70; K Tomori (Japan) 73, 70, 72, 71; D Carter 70, 75, 70, 71; S Henderson 73, 70, 71, 72; A Hunter 73, 72, 68, 73; B Tinning (Den) 72, 70, 71, 73; P Mitchell 71, 72, 69, 74; T Bjorn (Den) 72, 72, 66, 76; H Clark 73, 69, 68, 76. 287: A Sandywell 76, 70, 69, 72; P Broadhurst 68, 76, 71, 72; M Jonzon (Swe) 72, 73, 69, 73; R Goosen (SA) 70, 71, 72, 74; V Phillips 71, 68, 74, 74; S Luna (Sp) 72, 72, 68, 75. 288: A Cabrera (Arg) 73, 70, 75, 70; M Hallberg (Swe) 71, 72, 75, 70; P Affleck 73, 73, 71, 71; A Johnstone (Zim) 70, 73, 73, 72; R Davis (Aus) 72, 72, 72, 72; J Spence 73, 73, 70, 72; D Cole (Aus) 72, 74, 69, 73; E Canonica (It) 70, 70, 74, 74; J Robson 70, 71, 73, 74. 289: M Mouland 72, 73, 73, 71; A Cejka (Ger) 73, 73, 70, 73; M Mackenzie 72, 72, 70, 75.

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MARKUS LESER

Pulling power: Pinsent, left, Foster, Redgrave and Cracknell ease their way to victory in the coxless fours yesterday

Business booms for Redgrave

From Mike Rosewell in Munich

STEVE REDGRAVE'S comment on Friday that it was "business as usual" as far as his rowing was concerned, gained deeper meaning as the Munich stage of the World Cup series progressed and he and Matthew Pinsent ended the regatta with their five-year unbeaten record intact. The switch of boat, from coxless pair to coxless four, and the inclusion of Tim Foster and James Cracknell in the line-up, made no change to the usual scenario and the comfortable win on Friday was followed by first places in the semi-final on Saturday and the final yesterday.

Since 1992, Redgrave has believed in winning every race, be it heat or final. "It makes you mentally stronger," he said. "You are not just sending out a message to others. You are sending a message to yourself. You learn by winning, not losing."

The "new boys" have noticed the difference. Foster, no newcomer to international medals, said wryly: "Whatever people say about Steve and Matt, they really are quite good. Previously, I raced hoping to win. This crew expects to win."

Cracknell, the quietest of the quartet, admitted that he was enjoying the experience of being in a crew capable of controlling races. In the final, the British led by a length with 500 metres to go when Germany and Croatia started to push, but Pinsent's confidence was such that he delayed his final burst until the last 200 metres.

Results 35

Jurgen Grobler, the coach, accepted that there was much still to do. "The power is there but there is a lot more to come. We have seven races before the world championships. We have got to learn something every race."

Technically there are still obvious faults, particularly on the bow side, at No 2 and No 3, where Redgrave and Foster row in tandem and Foster has more length. The win pleased both Redgrave and Pinsent, though. "The mistakes we made didn't cost us a race," Pinsent said. Redgrave added: "We are now in the driving seat knowing we can go faster."

The coxless four's gold was the highlight of a weekend of racing that placed Britain a comfortable second behind Germany among the 37 nations in the new World Cup, which is based on the 14 Olympic events. With points awarded for the top seven finishers, eight British crews scored, notable contributors being the eight and new coxless pair of Rob Thatcher and Ben Hunt-Davis.

With 1,500 metres left in the eights final, the British were fourth when Peter Wilson, of Queen's Tower, clearly a natural stroke, wound up his men to 42½ to pass Russia and the German Under-23s. Thatcher and Hunt-Davis were told only a fortnight ago by Grobler that they would be tried in the coxless pair and that a top-six placing was their target. They also finished second, despite being left behind in the first 500 metres.

Third-place points went to the London lightweight coxless four, with Nottingham County, their rivals for selection, also scoring in seventh place. Two other lightweights, Matthew Beechey and Tim Bedingfield, in a pair, gained points for a sixth place.

There was the unusual sight of a British quad scull featuring among the best in their final and finishing fourth. Greg Searle, in a single, found the windy conditions difficult and failed to qualify.

Guin Batten was also unhappy with the headwind that afflicted her semi-final on Saturday, although she qualified in second place. The wind continued yesterday and she finished fifth in a high-class field.

Britain achieved five golds and one silver in non-World Cup events, eye-catching performances being provided by the young silver medal-winning lightweight eight, and, in the under-23 section, the coxless four from Oxford Brookes University and Elise Laverick, from Thames, who both took golds.

ATHLETICS

Slaneys may contest IAAF ban in court

By Steven Downes

PRIMO NEBIOLO, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), said "I want to be president of athletics, not president of doping" after a decision by the IAAF Council in Athens on the drugs case of Mary Slaney.

Slaney, 38, the 1983 world champion at 1,500 and 3,000 metres, returned a positive drugs test for testosterone at the United States Olympic trials 12 months ago. She has denied ever using banned substances, and US Track and Field, her national governing body, has been reluctant to enforce a suspension for fear of legal challenges. Now, the IAAF has ordered Slaney, together with two other Americans, to be banned.

Slaney's husband, Richard, the former British discus champion, described the decision as "an outrage" yesterday, adding that the IAAF had not acted according to its own rules. Dr Nebiolo took a different, and categorical, view. "When an athlete is considered positive, the athlete must be immediately suspended," he said.

The IAAF will now seek the return of the silver medal and $20,000 which Slaney won at the World Indoor Championships in Paris in March, when she otherwise would have been ineligible.

"We cannot be embarrassed like this," Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF secretary, said. "We told the Americans what to do in February. In future, if a national federation is reluctant to impose a ban, the IAAF Council will do so for them."

The Slaneys are expected to seek a court injunction to allow the runner to compete at the United States championships later this month.

In an unrelated case, Haris Papadias competed in Paris in March, winning the men's 60 metres, when he might otherwise have been suspended. Papadias was one of four Greek athletes who reportedly evaded a random drugs test in February and his $50,000 Paris prize-money has been withheld, pending further investigation. However, he is unlikely to be suspended before the outdoor world championships, in his home city of Athens in August.

BADMINTON

Rasmussen crowned on day of high drama

By Richard Eaton

PETER RASMUSSEN won the longest, best and most surprising of all world championship finals when he beat Sun Jun, the world No 3 from China, in a two-hour final of magnificently contrasting phases with a dramatically controversial finish in Glasgow yesterday.

Rasmussen, seeded only fifteenth, produced the performance of his life to win 16-17, 18-13, 15-10, once coming from the brink of defeat at 13-6 down in the second game and then recovering from 10-3 down in the third when Sun, racked with cramp, was only able to hobble towards the shuttle.

How the Chinese player's courage got him so close to victory when, from 5-3 onwards, he was so immobilised, was remarkable, though it owed something to the Malaysian umpire's failure to interpret the rules more rigorously.

Twice Sun gained respites of two minutes while he put medication on his right thigh and then bandaged it, and while changing ends he was allowed to take three minutes. On all three occasions it prompted such a fury of booing from hundreds of the Dane's supporters that a serious incident seemed possible.

"I got angry about the breaks, but in the end I decided that this was another of the obstacles I had to overcome if I was to be world champion," Rasmussen said. In many ways the bigger obstacle was the second-game deficit, which he hauled back by taking 12 points in a row when he had looked beaten.

Throughout this recovery Rasmussen worked heroically hard to take the shuttle higher at the net than Sun. This created openings for winners and kills at the net and then, in the five-point setting, chances for his dangerous smash, which Sun had often been able to contain.

It was during these five points that Sun began to wilt. He sat on his haunches, squatted on the court, held his leg with his hands and staggered alarmingly.

Later, Ye Zhaoying became the first player for ten years to retain the women's singles title, beating her compatriot, Gong Zhichao, 12-10, 11-8 as China completed a haul of four of the six titles.

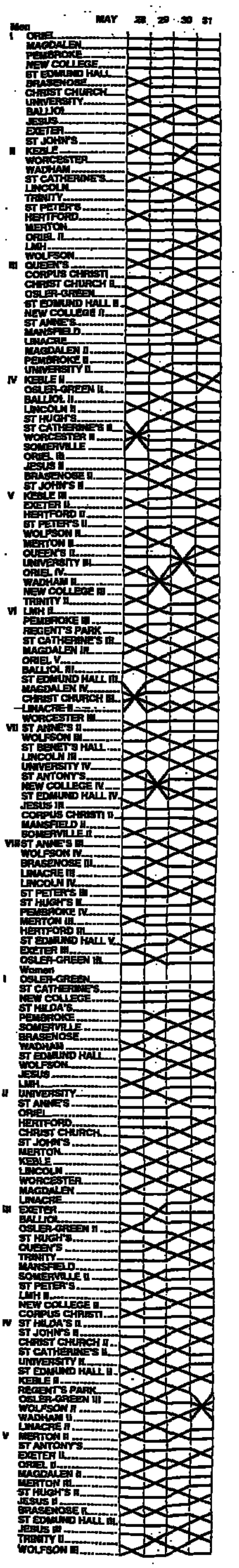
ROWING

Champions defy all challenges

ORIEL and Osler-Green retained the headships of the men's and women's first divisions of the Oxford University Summer Eights on Saturday, but the two races could not have been more contrasting.

When Osler-Green passed the University boathouse, no other boat was in sight. The next ten crews had all bumped out and 400 yards of clear water separated Osler from University and St Anne's — the only other crews still rowing — at the bottom of the division.

The men's race produced a close struggle between Magdalen and Oriel. Magdalen closed to half a length along the Green Bank, and a canvass after they passed the boathouse, but Oriel withstood the challenge and pulled away to finish half a length clear. Balliol caught Christ Church to return to the ninth position in which they started the week, while the rest of the division rowed over.



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TENNIS: GRAF AND HINGIS DROP SETS BEFORE OVERCOMING TESTING CONDITIONS

Kafelnikov refuses to be blown off course

FROM ROB HUGHES IN PARIS

ON THE seventh day of the French Open, a billowing wind over Roland Garros that would have grounded the aviator after whom the stadium is named, scattered some of the top seeds yet inspired others to superb defiance of the elements.

Yevgeni Kafelnikov, the Russian who holds the men's singles title, simply grows more serene by the round. He mastered the conditions as well as he did his young Australian opponent, Mark Philippoussis, using guile against power and his considerable edge in experience to win 6-2, 6-3, 7-5 in just 90 minutes.

Kafelnikov, still the Russian pessimist, still saying he is not satisfied with his game, refused to be blown out of his rhythm. But, on the same centre court, Alex Corretja, the Spaniard whose baseline game has been more consistent than that of anyone else over the last three months, fell in two hours 57 minutes, over four sets, to Filip Dewulf, the first Belgian to reach the quarter-finals since 1958, and only the third man to come through the qualifying rounds to reach this stage.

Paris results 35

In defeat, Corretja will be remembered for a supreme moment of sportsmanship, refusing to take a crucial break point that was awarded to him. "I saw the ball was on the line, I cannot say it is out," he said. "I have to be honest, even if it's break point or advantage for him. That's the way I felt on court."

Bravo for a loser, whose reward for setting such an example was to have a string break in his racket in the very next game and eventually fail to live up to the expectations of those players who though this would be Corretja's year.

The crowd, alas, learnt nothing from Corretja and failed to appreciate that Monica Seles is just about the most feisty competitor around.

Late in the evening, when she was imposing her will on Mary Pierce, the adopted French heroine, they persistently tried to break her concentration with crude Mexican waves and catcalls.

Seles won the first set 6-4 and led 4-3 in the second, demonstrating to the full the courage with which she is retrieving her career and trying to raise the spirits of her father and coach, Karolj, who is seriously ill back in Florida.

Just once she faltered, dropping her service game to love. But this is a special spirit. She grunted volubly, came back to deprive Pierce of her service, also to love, and, when she had won that second set 7-5, raised a fist to the French.

How that wind tugged at the dresses, and the concentration, of the ladies. Steffi Graf, playing on the centre court between the rising Belgian, Dewulf, and the omnipotent Kafelnikov, struggled at first with herself.

She seemed dominant in the first set against the Romanian, Irina Spirlea, yet managed to lose it in the tie-break. This raised her hackles and her German pride, and she wore down Spirlea, claimed the victory by winning successive sets 6-2, 6-2.

It is beginning to look as if she is regaining her game, despite the injured left knee and the chatter among rivals that she is vulnerable. Her next opponent, Amanda Coetzer, who eliminated the the higher-ranked Conchita Martinez in three sets, has recently beaten Graf twice. But that was a convalescing German; this appears a resurgent one.

On the Suzanne Lenglen court, Magnus Norman, the Swede ranked 65th in the world, continued to be the conqueror. Having ousted Britain's Greg Rusedski and the ailing Pete Sampras, yesterday he destroyed Marc Rosset, who of all the competitors managed to blame the wind and only the wind for his defeat. Rosset, a winner 99 times on clay, swore about the elements, then said: "I am not Mother Teresa. I don't care. I am not here to do charity to anybody."

Norman was told of his opponent's bitterness. "No one is winning because of the wind," replied the phlegmatic young Swede.

"I don't know if it was blowing more on his side. I knew when I came here in the morning that I wasn't going to play good tennis. You have to fight and fight to win in these conditions."

Martina Hingis, No 1 in the world and unbeaten in 38 matches this year, comfortably won her first set against Austria's Barbara Paulus, 6-3. She then lapsed to surrender the second set 6-0. Was the finest flower about to be blown away? Twenty-four minutes later we had our answer. Hingis did to Paulus what had been done to her, a love set wrapping up the match.

And, at last, there was a British win on these courts. In the morning, David Sherwood won in the junior section, by 7-6, 2-6, 6-3 against Paradorn Srichaphan, of Thailand. It was not, perhaps, a victory that suggests he will excel, but it was welcome for all that.

GARY M PRIOR/ALLSPORT

Graf hits a stunning forehand volley during yesterday's win over Spirlea

Yen for Yankees sees rookie strike it rich

Tunku Varadarajan on the unheralded Japanese pitcher who has finally arrived in baseball's promised land

To gasps all around, some of glee and others of sheer disbelief, the New York Yankees have signed Hideki Irabu, the Japanese pitcher, on a four-year contract worth $12.8 million (about £7.8 million) — more money than has ever been offered to a Major League rookie.

Irabu has never played baseball outside Japan. It is as if Liverpool had lavished a vast sum for a footballer from Cameroon, whose only international experience was the odd away game in Guinea-Bissau, and launched him straight into the FA Carling Premiership.

A bit of a gamble? Undoubtedly. Yet the Yankees, the most celebrated sports team in America by far, are convinced that they are on to a winner.

Irabu is a starting pitcher, which is the baseball equivalent of an opening bowler. At his best, his pitches have been recorded at 100 miles per hour, evoking comparisons with Nolan Ryan, the Texan pitcher regarded as perhaps the briskest of all time. To put it in perspective, he pitches as fast as Jeff Thomson bowled.

Such speed is startling in a pitcher from Japan, but Irabu is built like an Osaka ox. At 6ft 2in and 18½ stone, he is probably the heftiest non-Sumo wrestling Japanese man in sport. He has a thick neck, the chest of four sherpas and a big "pitcher's butt" — an athletic asset in a sport where the gluteus is always maximus.

Irabu's odyssey to the Yankees, however, is startling too. He has played for eight years in the Japanese Pacific League, with the bizarrely named Chiba Lotte Marines. However, professional baseball in Japan is like indentured labour, and in January the Marines traded him to the San Diego Padres, a club in which Irabu had no interest but with which the Marines have had cosy business links for years.

Irabu, naturally, was a bit miffed, and simply refused to play for the Padres. Instead, with a most un-Japanese pushiness, he insisted that he be transferred to the Yankees, who had already shown a desire to have him on their payroll. "I play for the Yankees or I play for no one," Irabu bellowed memorably at a crowd of Japanese journalists at Tokyo airport in March.

After months of wrangling, almost all of it bitter, the Yankees and Irabu got each other over the weekend. The club's Napoleonic owner, George Steinbrenner, who has not once seen his man hurl a ball, offered him a mouthwatering deal by the standards of a man yet to play in the Major League.

Irabu will receive a signing bonus of $8.5 million (about £5.2 million) payable over three years, and salaries of $200,000, $800,000, $1 million and $2 million for the next four years. The Yankees have also secured an option for a fifth year, at a salary of $4 million.

The question that has intrigued everyone, though, is this: Why? Is Irabu that good? What if the dream deal curdles quickly?

Irabu is fast, but he is artless. He has, as yet, no "forkball" (or outswinger) worth the name. He has pitched only at Japanese hitters and at those Americans who play in the Pacific League, invariably rejects from the American Major League. Will not batters such as Ken Griffey Jr — baseball's Brian Lara — simply murder him?

The Yankees, however, know all about that. A coach said: "Look, the boy's got talent. We'll show him what to do with it. Give us some time with him and he'll be as sharp as a laser beam, the best."

The example of Hideo Nomo, a Japanese pitcher signed by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1995, is a fertile source of optimism. He was voted rookie of the year and, if he could succeed, so can Irabu, who is faster, fitter, meaner and more talented.

Already dubbed the "Orient Express", the man from Japan is New York's latest, and most unlikely, All-American Boy. All he needs to do now is to learn to pitch a forkball.

JEFF CHRISTENSEN

Irabu's signing has taken American sport by storm

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

CRICKET

Tetley's Challenge Series
11.0, final day of three
DERBY: Derbyshire v Australians

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum
ILFORD: Essex v Yorkshire
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Durham
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Warwickshire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Lancashire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Northamptonshire
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Somerset

University match
11.0, final day of three
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Sussex

AON RISK TROPHY (one day): Christ College, Brecon: Glamorgan v Hampshire; Shenley Park: MCC Young Cricketers v Surrey; North Runcton: Minor Counties v Northamptonshire; Park Avenue, Bradford: Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire.

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: British amateur championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports).

MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man)

RACING: Leicester (2.15); Hamilton Park (2.30); Thirsk (6.15); Windsor (6.30)

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Wolverhampton v Swindon (7.30). Premier League: Exeter v Newcastle (7.30); Reading v Sheffield (7.30). Amateur League: Wolverhampton and Long Eaton v Ipswich and King's Lynn (7.15).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

TOURNOI DE FRANCE: France v Brazil (at Lyon, 7.45).

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Cuyo v England XV (at Mendoza, 7.0)

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: British amateur championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports).

MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man)

RACING: Brighton (2.30); Pontefract (2.45).

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Bradford v Ipswich (7.30). Amateur League: St Austell v Exeter and Newport (7.30).

TENNIS: Surrey International Championships (at Surbiton)

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

TOURNOI DE FRANCE: Italy v England (at Nantes, 7.30).

CRICKET

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of four): Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire; Chester-le-Street: Durham v Sussex, Tunbridge Wells: Kent v Warwickshire, Lord's: Middlesex v Leicestershire; Northampton: Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire; Taunton: Somerset v Lancashire; The Oval: Surrey v Essex. Headingley: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Mpumalanga v British Isles XV (at Witbank, 2.15)

RUGBY LEAGUE

SECOND DIVISION: Bramley v Leigh Centurions (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: British amateur championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports); International match: Great Britain and Ireland v South Africa (at Letham Grange)

MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man)

RACING: Beverley (6.30); Chester (6.40); Folkestone (6.20); Newcastle (2.30); Warwick (2.15).

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: King's Lynn v Wolverhampton (7.45); Poole v Ipswich (7.30). Premier League: Hull v Reading (7.30). Long Eaton v Stoke (7.45). Amateur League: Long Eaton and Wolverhampton v Lathallan (7.30)

TENNIS: Surrey International Championships (at Surbiton).

THURSDAY

CRICKET

FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH (first day of five): Edgbaston: England v Australia

UNIVERSITY MATCH (first day of three). The Parks: Oxford University v Glamorgan.

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: World Boxing Council Intercontinental middleweight championship: Glenn Catley (Bristol) v opponent tba (at Whitchurch Sports Centre, Bristol). European junior championships: Quarter-finals (at National Indoor Arena, Birmingham).

GOLF: Staley Hall Grand Prix of Europe (Slaley Hall, Hexham); British amateur championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports); International match: Great Britain and Ireland v South Africa (at Letham Grange)

MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man).

RACING: Beverley (2.20); Perth (2.10); Yarmouth (2.0)

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Ipswich v Bradford (7.30). Premier League: Sheffield v Reading (7.45). Amateur League: Ipswich and King's Lynn v Lathallan (9.0).

TENNIS: Surrey International Championships (at Surbiton)

FRIDAY

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: King Country v Ireland Development XV (at Taupo, 8.35am).

RUGBY LEAGUE

SUPER LEAGUE WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A: Brisbane Broncos v London Broncos (10.30). St Helens v Auckland Warriors (7.30).

FIRST DIVISION: Dewsbury Rams v Huddersfield Giants (7.45). Second division: Lancashire Lynx v Prescot Panthers (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: Slaley Hall Grand Prix of Europe (Slaley Hall, Hexham): British amateur championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports): Jersey Seniors Open (at La Moye).

MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man)

MOTOR RALLYING: Scottish Rally

RACING: Epsom (2.10), Catterick Bridge (2.35): Goodwood (6.30); Haydock Park (6.40); Southwell (AW, 2.20): Perth (6.50)

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Belle Vue v Swindon (7.30). Premier League: Edinburgh v Newport (7.30); Oxford v Glasgow (7.45). Premier League Cup: Arena Essex v Reading (8.0). Amateur League: Belle Vue v St Austell (9.0).

TENNIS: Surrey International Championships (at Surbiton).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

TOURNOI DE FRANCE: France v England (at Montpellier, 7.45).

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group four: Belarus v Scotland (at Minsk, 11.0)

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Northern Ireland v Wales (at Chimney Corner FC, Belfast, 6.0).

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Argentina v England (at FCO Ground, Buenos Aires, 7.30)

TOUR MATCH: Northern Transvaal v British Isles XV (at Pretoria, 2.15)

RUGBY LEAGUE

SUPER LEAGUE WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool B: North Queensland Cowboys v Leeds Rhinos (10.30)

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: European junior championships: Semi-finals (at National Indoor Arena, Birmingham)

GOLF: Slaley Hall Grand Prix of Europe (Slaley Hall, Hexham): British amateur championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports); Jersey Seniors Open (at La Moye)

MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man)

MOTOR RALLYING: Scottish Rally.

RACING: Epsom (2.0); Doncaster (2.20). Haydock Park (2.10): Newmarket (6.40). Southwell (6.50); Wolverhampton (AW, 7.0): Worcester (2.55).

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Swindon v Bradford (7.30). Premier League: Berwick v Newport (7.0). Premier League Cup: Stoke v Glasgow (7.30). Amateur League: Berwick v Reading and Swindon (6.0): Mildenhall v Peterborough (7.30).

TENNIS: Surrey International Championships (at Surbiton)

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

WORLD CUP: European qualifying group four: Belarus v Scotland (at Minsk, 3.0)

TOURNOI DE FRANCE: Brazil v Italy (at Lyon, 7.30)

CRICKET

AXA LIFE LEAGUE (40 overs): Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire, Chester-le-Street: Durham v Sussex; Tunbridge Wells, Kent v Warwickshire. Lord's: Middlesex v Leicestershire. Milton Keynes (Campbell Park): Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire. Taunton: Somerset v Lancashire. The Oval: Surrey v Essex; Headingley: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

SUPER LEAGUE WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A: Canberra Raiders v Halifax Blue Sox (5.30); Warrington Wolves v Cronulla Sharks (6.35). Pool B: Adelaide Rams v Salford Reds (5.30). Castleford Tigers v Perth Western Reds (3.30). Paris Saint-Germain v Hunter Mariners (2.0)

FIRST DIVISION: Hull Kingston Rovers v Hull; Swinton Lions v Widnes Vikings. Wakefield Trinity v Featherstone Rovers (3.30). Whitehaven Warriors v Workington Town (3.30). Second division: Barrow Braves v Carlisle Border Raiders. Hunslet Hawks v Bramley (3.30); Leigh Centurions v Rochdale Hornets; York Lions v Batley Bulldogs.

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World League (WLAF): Scottish Claymores v London Monarchs (at Murrayfield, 3.0)

BOXING: European junior championships: Finals (at National Indoor Arena, Birmingham)

GOLF: Slaley Hall Grand Prix of Europe (Slaley Hall, Hexham), Jersey Seniors Open (at La Moye)

Win a trip to Barbados with our Ashes game

The Times and Sporting Index are giving you the chance to win a 10-day trip for two to Barbados to see the West Indies play, with accommodation and flights included, in our exclusive Ashes Test competition. The prize will go to the player who scores the most points over the six-match series. There are also individual prizes for each of the six Tests. This week, there are tickets to the Test at Lord's and to the fifth Test at Trent Bridge to be won. The game allows you to challenge our cricket experts without risking your own money. Success or failure is based not just on being right or wrong, but on how right or wrong you are.

SPORTING INDEX

HOW IT WORKS

Printed below are five predictions about the number of runs which will be made at the first Test at Edgbaston. You must decide whether the individual or team will score more or fewer than the number we state and back your judgment by placing a bet of between 20 and 100 points for each question. You must answer all five questions and you have a total staking budget fund of 200 points which you must not exceed and which must be divided between your five stakes. Then call our entry line below before midnight on Wednesday. Calls will last about five minutes and cost 50p a minute. Follow the instructions on the line. To help you keep a record of your entry, use the form below. Full results will appear in *The Times*. To check your score find the final result for each question. Calculate how many runs you were right or wrong by: multiply the difference by the stake you picked; the answer is how much you won or lost.

*The default value is applied only where the player is not selected. Each country must complete one innings, otherwise all bets are off, and the prize fund is rolled forward to the next test. In the event of a tie the winner will be selected at random from all correct entries. Normal TNL competition rules apply.

Questions for 1st test	No of Runs	High or Low	Stake
How many runs will Graham Thorpe score in the 1st Test? *Default value 75	75	MORE ☐ or LESS ☐	☐ (min 20, max 100)
How many runs will Mark Waugh score in the 1st Test? *Default value 85	85	MORE ☐ or LESS ☐	☐ (min 20, max 100)
Lowest team innings score	230	MORE ☐ or LESS ☐	☐ (min 20, max 100)
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		Total staked (max 200)	☐

Tie-breaker
What will be the 1st innings score of the team batting first? RUNS ☐ (no stake needed)

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£1 to £999	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.40
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£2,500 to £4,999	4.75	4.83	3.80	3.85
£5,000 to £49,999	5.65	5.77	4.52	4.59
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هديا من الاهل

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

WORLD LEAGUE (WLAF): Amsterdam Admirals bt London Monarchs 13-9. Scottish Claymores bt Frankfurt Galaxy 24-7

ATHLETICS

Track and field

RIGA, Latvia: International meeting: Selected winners and British: Men: 100m: S Inshakov (Lat) 10.12sec. 200m: S Inshakov (Lat) 20.83sec. 400m: I Thomas (GB) 45.48sec. 800m: V Rodal (Nor) 1min 45.53sec. 110m hurdles: 1, G Pedets (Lat) 13.51sec; 2, T Jarrett (GB) 13.55. 400m hurdles: S Podrez (Russ) 50.86. High jump: V Voronin (Russ) 2.21m. Triple jump: J Edwards (GB) 17.21. Javelin: S Backley (GB) 89.02m. Women: 100m: S Jacobs (GB) 11.46sec. 200m: 1, S Jacobs (GB) 23.25sec. Triple jump: A Hansen (GB) 14.49m.

CARDIFF: Welsh games: Men: 100m: J Livingston (International Select) 10.39sec. 150m: I Mackie (GB) 14.99sec. 200m: D Campbell (International Select) 20.35sec. 300m: 1 J Baulch (GB) 32.06sec. 400m: P McBurney (N Ire) 46.9sec. 800m: E King (N Ire) 1min 52.14sec. 1,500m: C Stephenson (Wales) 3min 49.9sec. 5,000m: S Cotton (Guest) 14min 26.10sec. 110m hurdles: C Jackson (Wales) 13.83sec. 400m hurdles: P Gray (Wales) 51.42. 3,000m steeplechase: S Duvall (International Select) 8min 57.80sec. 4x100m relay: Wales 40.24. 4x400m relay: Wales 3:12.68. High jump: A Penk (Wales) 2.15m. Long Jump: S Phillips (International Select) 7.87m. Triple jump: E Clark (International Select) 15.03m. Pole vault: T Thomas (Wales) 4.80m. Shot: L Newman (International Select) 16.60m. Discus: G Smith (Guest) 58.58. Hammer: G Holden (Wales) 61.04m. Javelin: D Smahon (N Ire) 66.84m. Overall Standings: 1, Wales 117pts; 2, International Select 106; 3, Northern Ireland 71. Women: 100m: S Williams (Guest) 11.90sec. 200m: J Sloute (International Select) 23.51sec. 400m: V Jamison (N Ire) 53.90sec. 800m: V Stein (International Select) 2min 08.10sec. 1,500m: J Pavey (International Select) 4min 15.08sec. 5,000m: A Mair (Wales) 16min 32.90sec. 100m hurdles: J Agyepong (International Select) 13.60sec. 400m hurdles: C Wilkins (Wales) 62.10sec. High jump: S Jones (International Select) 1.85m. Long jump: N Short (Wales) 5.63m. Triple jump: T Andrews (Wales) 10.59m. Pole vault: J Whitlock (International Select) 3.90m. Shot: T Axten (International Select) 15.17. Discus: T Axten (International Select) 58.18. Hammer: S Moore (Wales) 53.62. Javelin: S Lax (Wales) 41.52. 4x100m relay: International Select 46.40sec. 4x400m relay: Northern Ireland 3min 45.11sec.

BEDFORD: International meeting: Winners: 100m: T Rutherford (Cardiff) 10.76sec. 200m: D Walker (Newham and Essex Beagles) 20.76 (World Championships qualifying time). 400m: G Dearman (Belgrave) 46.66. 800m: M Yates (Belgrave) 1.51.05. 110m hurdles: R Baillie (Victoria Park AC) 14.53. 400m hurdles: M Douglas (Belgrave) 50.98. Pole Vault: K Hughes (Haringey) 5.41m. Triple Jump: K Eruobogbo (Birchfield) 16.44m. Women: 100m: E Mckenzie (Ealing, Southall and Middlesex) 11.86. 200m: D Fraser (Croydon) 23.63. 400m: A Curbishley (Edinburgh Woollen Mill) 52.57. 100m hurdles: K Skutchley (Team Solent) 14.51. 400m hurdles: S Gunnell (Essex Ladies) 56.07. High jump: J Jennings (Essex Ladies) 1.85m. Pole vault: L Stanton (Sale) 3.60m. Hammer: L Sprules (Hounslow) 59.92m.

VALENCIA: European Women's champion clubs trophy: Group A: 1, Russia 90pts; 2, Italy 85; 3, Czech Republic 76; 4, Spain 63; 5, Slovenia 48.5; 6, Germany 46.5; 7, Hungary 45 (Hungary and Bulgaria relegated to Group B). Group B: 1, Portugal 78pts; 2, GB (Birchfield) 69.5; 3, Denmark 67; 4, France 55.5; 5, Greece 50; 6, Belgium 30 (Portugal and Great Britain promoted to group A).

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE: Port Adelaide 14.9 (93) bt Carlton 7.13 (55).

BADMINTON

GLASGOW: World championships: Men: Singles: Quarter-finals: P Rasmussen (Den) bt Park Sung Woo (S Kor) 15-2, 18-17. Sun Jun (China) bt P G Christenson (Den) 15-9, 15-11; P-E Hoyer-Larsen (Den) bt J Suprianto (Indo) 10-15, 15-9, 15-5. Semi-finals: Rasmussen bt H Arbi (Ind) 9-15, 15-9, 15-2. Sun Jun bt Hoyer-Larsen 15-7, 14-17, 15-9. Final: Rasmussen bt Sun Jun 16-17, 18-13, 15-10. Doubles: Quarter-finals: Yap Kim Hock and Cheah Soon Kit (S Kor) bt J Holst-Christensen and M Sogaard (Den) 15-12, 15-12. S Sigit and C Vigaya (Indo) bt T Stavngaard and J Laugesen (Den) 18-16, 15-2. Lee Dong Soo and Yoo Yong Sung (S Kor) bt P Axelsson and P Gunnar Jonsson (Den) 17-16, 17-14. R Mainaky and R Subagja (Indo) bt N Zuev and A Antropov (Russ) 15-10, 15-10. Semi-finals: Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock bt Subagja and Mainaky 15-9, 2-15, 15-12. Women: Singles: Quarter-finals: Han Jingna (China) bt Zhang Ning (China) 11-8, 11-7; Ye Zhaoying (China) bt Dai Yun (China) 11-7, 11-6. Semi-finals: Zhaoying bt W Chen (China) 11-5, 5-11, 11-4; G Zhichao (China) bt Jingna 12-11, 11-9. Final: Zhaoying bt Zhichao 12-11, 11-8. Doubles: Quarter-finals: Qian Hong and Liu Lu (China) bt D Lombin and I Sokuna (Indo) 15-10, 15-6. R Zetin and Eliza (Indo) bt Chor Hooi Yee and Lim Pek Siah (Malaysia) 15-6, 15-2. Gu Jun and Ge Fei (China) bt R Olsen and H Kirkegaard (Den) 15-2, 15-8. Tang Yongshu and Qin Yiyuan (China) bt M Thomson and L Sturt-Laurence (Den) 7-15, 15-8, 15-1.

BOWLS

BATH: City of Bath Open tournament: Men: Singles: Fifth round: D Southcombe bt K Fletcher 21-17. R Gall bt E J Humphrey 21-17. J Erskine bt A Colebrooke 21-19; R Doughty bt B Smith 21-9. M Tibbs bt R Hennessy 21-13. J Squires bt C Bartlett 21-14; D Goo bt P Mockly 21-11. J Hobday bt F Johnson 21-17. Pairs: Fifth round: A Harris and P Hardie bt A Rees and M Prosser 21-14. A Mathias and M Harding bt H Lonmer and B Hancock 27-16. F Wouton and M Murphy bt B Smith and D Parslow 19-18. S Brotherton and B Eley bt H Plumley and R Stokes 17-8. Women: Singles: Fourth round: J Connock wo M Stokes; B Shepheard bt M Manning 21-17. A Jacobs bt P Allord 21-9. J Stein bt B Wilson 21-14. N Davidson bt N Rowdon 21-18; D Omond wo M Dyer. W Bunnell bt J Wilkinson 21-9. M Mayo bt S Hancock 21-9.

GLASGOW: Scottish Counties Championship: North Section: Angus 126 Aberdeen and Kincardine 130. Bon Accord 95 Perthshire 112. Buchan 127 Highland 115. Northern Counties 102 Dundee 123. East Section: Stirlingshire East 134 West Fife 126. Fife 117 Borders 123; Midlothian 105 East Lothian 137. Edinburgh and Leith 129 Linlithgowshire 96. West Section: Argyll and Bute 101 Lanarkshire West 116. Stirlingshire West 106 Clackmannan and Kinross 133. Renfrewshire West 103 Dumbartonshire West 106. South Section: Dumfriesshire 171 Glasgow South 84. Lanarkshire South 150 Wigtownshire 97. Dumbartonshire East 129 Renfrewshire South 118; Ayrshire 109 Stewartry 130.

BOXING

PARIS: European light-heavyweight championship: C Ashley (GB, holder) bt P Wunstel (Fr) pts.

BANGKOK: World Boxing Federation bantamweight championship: F Hakkulgym (Thai, holder) bt S Gonzalez (Nic) ko 2nd.

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey: International Boxing Federation junior-welterweight championship: V Phillips (US) bt K Tszyu (Russ, holder) rsc 10th. Heavyweight (10rnds): J Ferguson (US) bt S Poruha (US) rsc 8th, (4rnds): N Valouev (Russ) bt T Nelson (US) ko 2nd.

LAS VEGAS: World Boxing Organisation light-flyweight championship (vacant): J Chong (Mex) bt E Griffin (US) ko 2nd.

PHETCHABUN, Thailand: World Boxing Council light-flyweight championship: S Sor Juturong (Thai, holder) bt M Marali (SA) ko 4th.

CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (final day of three): Elland: Essex 240 and 216 (D D J Robinson 63, G R Napier 53); Yorkshire 328-7 dec and 129-4. Yorkshire win by six wickets. Hinckley Town CC: Leicestershire 256 and 379 for 8 dec (G I Macmillan 129, I J Sutcliffe 128, R I Dawson 4-73); Gloucestershire 283 and 178 (D R Hewson 73, Macmillan 6-20). Leicestershire win by 171 runs. Ashford: Kent 230 and 370-6 dec (N J Llong 151 not out, N W Preston 62); Somerset 286 and 212-6 (K A Parsons 134 not out). Match drawn. Knowle and Dorridge: Warwickshire 318-8 dec and 280-8 dec (W G Khan 116); Hampshire 301-2 dec and 302-6 (G R Treagus 94, P R Whitaker 60; M D Edmond 4-52). Hampshire win by three wickets. Campbell Park, Milton Keynes: Worcestershire 332 and 168-8 dec (I Dawood 53); Northamptonshire 207 and 294-4 (D J Sales 140 not out, J G Hughes 50 not out). Northamptonshire win by six wickets. Stockton CC: Glamorgan 370 and 313-8 (R V Almond 78 not out, J Derrick 66); Durham 466. Match drawn. Cheadle: Derbyshire 402-7 dec and 225-6 dec (J E Owen 75, M J Vandrau 50); Lancashire 188 and 443-8 (A Flintoff 187 not out, P C McKeown 106). Match drawn.

CYCLING

Road racing

GIRO D'ITALIA: 14th stage (Racconigi to Breuil Cervinia, 232km): 1, I Gotti (It) 7hr 6min 32sec; 2, N Miceli (It) at 39sec; 3, S Garzelli (It) 1:30sec; 4, J-J Gonzalez Pico (Col) 1:46; 5, P Tonkov (Russ) same time; 6, L Picpoli (It) same time. 15th stage (Verres to Borgomanero, 173km): 1, A Baronti (It) 4hr 29min 23sec; 2, F Casagrande (It) same time; 3, P Salvoldelli (It) same time; 4, R Forconi (It) same time; 5, A Noe (It) at 50sec; 6, P Bottini (It) same time. Leading positions (after 15 stages): 1, Gotti 70hr 24min 51sec; 2, Tonkov 51 seconds behind; 3, Leblanc 3:02; 4, Shefer 3:40; 5, Miceli 4:07; 6, Guerini 6:17.

MIDI LIBRE RACE: Fifth stage: (Montpellier to Sete-Mont St Clair, 160km): 1, L Brochard (Fr) 3hr 4min 4sec; 2, E Salmon (Fr) at 10sec; 3, D Rebellin (It) 14; 4, M Beltran-Martinez (Sp) 16; 5, R Virenque (Fr) 18; 6, F Simon (Fr) same time. Sixth stage (Sete to Millau, 194km): 1, Brochard 4hr 54min 26sec; 2, J A Lujambio (Sp) at 01sec; 3, D Baranowski (Pol) 08; 4, B Voskamp (Holl) 12; 5, A Peron (It) same time; 6, G Totschnig (Austria) same time. Leading final overall positions: 1, A Elli (It) 27hr 13min 12sec; 2, Totschnig at 5min 15sec; 3, Voskamp 5:16; 4, B Hamburger (Den) 8:59; 5, Baranowski 15:22; 6, J Ameta Lujambio (Sp) 16:15.

OTHER RACES: Scottish CU Development Series (fourth round Musselburgh, 65 miles): 1, J Murdoch (Wallaceand CC) 2hr 36min 20sec; 2, A Thomson (Edinburgh University CC) at 1sec; 3, T McQuade (Fullarton Wheelers) same time. Women's Southern Area championship (Milton Keynes, 35 miles): 1, C Proham (Stratford Wheelers) 1hr 19min 40sec; 2, S Carter (Home) Hemstead CC; 3, L Judd (Cottingham Couriers) all same time.

Time-trials

RTTC National 25-mile Championship (Crathorne, North Yorks): 1, S Dangerfield (Wheelbase CC) 51min 10sec; 2, C Newton (North Wirral Velo) 51.15; 3, H Walker (GS Metro) 52.07; 4, J Ramsbottom (North Wirral Velo) 52.19; 5, S Yates (Team Clean) 52.24; 6, P Manning (Adidas-SeCon) 52.37. Team: North Wirral Velo (C Newton, J Ramsbottom, M Bottrill) 2hr 37min 11sec. Oxford City RC (Didcot, 50 miles): G Cignton (Leo RC) 1hr 48min 03sec. Team: Leo RC 5.34.55. Wessex RC (Avon Forest, 50 miles): P Stockley (Wessex RC) 1hr 55min 32sec. Team: Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers 6.24.02. East Midlands CC (Barrowby, Lincolnshire, 50 miles): A Patti (Stoke AC) 1hr 56min 23sec. Team: Coalville Wheelers 6.16.55. Shaftesbury CC (Sawston, Cambridgeshire, 50 miles): K Platts (Coalville Wheelers) 1hr 56min 25sec. Team: Shaftesbury CC 6.26.30. Acme Wheelers (Raglan, Gwent, 50 miles): C Wallace (Hirwaun Wheelers) 1hr 59min 33sec. Team: Bynea 6.11.15. CC Sudbury (Bury St Edmunds, 25 miles): G Dighton (Leo RC) 51min 30sec. West Pennine RC (Garstang, Lancashire, 25 miles): G Butler (Norwood Paragon) 53min 14sec. Team: Kent Valley RC 2.51.51. Rhyl CC (Abergele, Clwyd, 25 miles): P McFadden (Harlech Wheelers) 56min 04sec. Team: Team Velo Sport 2.52.09. St Budeaux CC (Buckfastleigh, Devon, 25 miles): I Polkinghorne (St Budeaux CC) 56min 16sec. South Eastern RC (Crawley, 25 miles): M Doe (Sigma Sport RT) 55min 29sec. Team: 34 Nomads 2.54.46. ABC Centreville (Goostrey, Cheshire, 25 miles): P Hodgkinson (Crewe Clarion Wheelers) 56min 21sec. Team: Crewe Clarion Wheelers 3.01.36. Tyne RC (Ducket, Tyne and Wear, 25 miles): P Wiseman (Mosdridge CRT) 56min 32sec. City RC, Hull (North Cave, 25 miles): S Swales (City RC) 56min 41sec. Ely and District CC (Cambridgeshire, 25 miles): A Newark (CC Breckland) 57min 58sec. Team: CC Breckland 3.03.09. Central Lancashire RC (Eccleston, 18.8 miles): M Evans (Barrow Central Wheelers) 42.30. Team: Barrow Central Wheelers 2.15.00. North Bucks RC (Milton Keynes, 10 miles): A McCaffrey (Alona RC) 20.06 (course record).

GOLF

ST PIERRE, Chepstow: Philips PFA Classic: Leading final scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 212: D Simon (USA) 69, 69, 74. 218: T Horton 69, 72, 77. 219: B Huggett 72, 74, 73; J Rhodes 69, 74, 76; M Gregson 71, 72, 76; A Garrido 72, 73, 74; T Sirz 76, 70, 73. 220: B Waites 73, 70, 77; L Higgins 72, 73, 75; V Tshabalala (SA) 76, 73, 71. 221: R Bernardini (It) 72, 74, 75; S Lancaster 70, 74, 77.

ST LOUIS, Missouri: LPGA tournament: Leaders after two rounds (United States unless stated): 205: A Sorenstam (Swe) 70, 69, 66. 206: H Kobayashi (Japan) 69, 68, 69. 212: K Webb (Aus) 70, 71, 71. 214: N Bowen 73, 74, 67; L Hackney (GB) 74, 71, 69; N Ramsbottom 73, 68, 73. 215: C Johnston, Forbes 75, 71, 69; C Johnson 72, 73, 70; D Pepper 70, 74, 71; K Marshall (GB) 72, 71, 72; P Hammel 69, 73, 73; J Arsenault 68, 73, 74. 216: K Weiss 70, 74, 72. 217: J Stephenson (Aus) 72, 75, 70; W Doolan 72, 75, 70; C Matthew (Swe) 73, 73, 73; K Golden 73, 71, 73.

ST ANDREWS: St Rule Trophy: Leading first round scores: 69: K Rostron (Cimeroet). 70: K Macintosh (Aus). 71: L Nicholson (Heriot Watt University), A Rose (Stirling), J Moodie (Windyhill). 72: H Kavanagh (Ire), B Hackett (Castleroy). 73: H Monaghan (Heriot Watt University), K Stapples (Royal Cinque Ports).

HOCKEY

BERLIN: Women's champions' trophy: United States 1 South Korea 0; Holland 1 Great Britain 0.

CARDIFF: Women's internationals: Saturday: Wales 6 (M Callaghan 2, E James 2, L Watkin, R Thomas) Sweden 0. Sunday: Wales 3 (R Thomas, C Merrit, H Evans) Sweden 0.

MOTORCYCLING

ZELTWEG: Austrian Grand Prix: 500cc (28 laps, 120.932km): 1, M Doohan (Australia, Honda) 41min 48.685sec (average speed 173.540kph); 2, T Okada (Japan, Honda) 41:10.742; 3, L Cadalora (It, Yamaha) 41:11.136; 4, N Aoki (Japan, Honda) 42:11.329; 5, A Criville (Sp, Honda) 42:14.127. Leading positions (after five races): 1, Doohan 120pts; 2, Criville 69; 3, Aoki 67; 4, Cadalora 59; 5, Okada 52. 250cc (26 laps, 112.294km): 1, O Jacque (Fr, Honda) 40min 29.266sec (average speed 166.411kph); 2, R Waldmann (Ger, Honda) 40.29.888; 3, M Biaggi (It, Honda) 40.35.678; 4, L Capirossi (It, Aprilia) 40.35.681; 5, T Ukawada (Japan, Honda) 40.52.824. Leading world championship positions: 1, Biaggi 91pts; 2, Waldmann 82; 3, Jacque 61; 4, T Harada (Japan, Aprilia) 56; 5, Ukawada 41.

ISLE OF MAN: Time Trial: Formula One (6 laps, 226.36 miles): 1, P McCallen (Honda RC45) 1hr 53min 16sec (average speed 119.90mph); 2, M Rutter (V and M Honda RC45) 1:54:52; 3, B Jackson (Kawasaki) 1:55:03; 4, I Simpson (V and M Honda RC45) 1:55:05; 5, M Flynn (Honda RC45) 1:55:59; 6, J Dunlop (Honda RC45) 1:56:29. Fastest lap: McCallen 18min 24.4sec (average speed 122.98mph). Sidecar Race A (3 laps, 113.19 miles): 1, R Hanks and P Biggs (Beale Ireson NRH) 1hr 03min 29sec (average speed 106.95mph); 2, V Biggs and G Biggs (Molyneux Yamaha) 1:03:31; 3, T Hanks and S Wilson (Yamaha) 1:03:37.

ROWING

GERMANY: Munich Regatta: Finals: Men: Single sculls: 1, I Cop (Slovenia) 8min 05.23sec; 2, I Ali (Egypt) 8:12.48; 3, J Hoven (US) 8:13.64; 4, A Reinholds (Latvia) 8:17.86; 5, F Bekken (Norway) 8:19.26; 6, A Willms (Ger) 8:30.58. Double sculls: 1, Norway (K Undset, S Skar Storseth) 7min 13.26sec; 2, Ukraine (A Marchenko, A Zaskalko) 7:14.74; 3, Germany (S Volkert, A Hajek) 7:19.85. Quadruple sculls: 1, Germany (J Burov, M Hacker, H Gerdes, S Roehnert) 6min 25.86sec; 2, Holland (D Simon, G Eggenkamp, J Loels, M Bartmann) 6:27.03; 3, Russia (O Kozikov, N Spinev, I Kravtsov, V Sokolov) 6:29.18. Coxless pair: 1, Croatia (I Borsato, T Frankovic) 7min 39.33sec; 2, Britain (R Thatcher, G Hunt-Davies) 7:42.80; 3, France (A Beghin, L Bechu) 7:46.68. Coxless fours: 1, Britain (J Cracknell, T Foster, S Redgrave, M Pinsent) 6min 34.00sec; 2, Germany (S Heinz, S Forster, U Steenblock, K Horl) 6:36.30; 3, Croatia (O Martinov, M Banovic, F Culjak, B Vujevic) 6:37.63. Eights: 1, Germany 6min 00.07sec; 2, Britain 6:02.19; 3, Germany 2 6:02.54. Lightweight double sculls: 1, Germany (B Ruehling, I Euler) 7min 18.08sec; 2, Austria (H Jutschnitzer, M Kobau) 7:20.16; 3, France (P Touron, F Dufour) 7:21.90. Lightweight coxless fours: 1, Denmark (T Ebert, E Ebbesen, T Poulsen, V Feddersen) 6min 34.85sec; 2, France 1 (X Dorfman, I Hocde, L Porchier, F Pinon) 6:37.34; 3, Britain (N Strange, J Wilkinson, I Watson, A Butt) 6:45.23. Women: Finals: Single sculls: 1, E Khloptseva (Bela) 8min 05.70sec; 2, Hansen (Den) 8:45.70; 3, M Brandin (Swe) 8:52.48. Double sculls: 1, Germany (K Boron, K Boron) 8min 07.38sec; 2, Lithuania (K Poplavskaja, B Sakickiene) 8:11.30; 3, Latvia (L Sattasa, L Lucena) 8:15.45. Quadruple sculls: 1, Germany (K Kowalski, M Evers, J Thieme, M Lutze) 7min 13.22sec; 2, Russia (I Fedotova, G Dorodnova, L Merk, M Bogdanova) 7:17.36; 3, Ukraine (D Mikhailichenko, I Frolova, S Mazij, O Ronzhina) 7:22.01. Coxless pairs: 1, Russia (A Lugachenko, V Polchikova) 8min 39.79sec; 2, Germany (K Mabor, G John) 8:48.24; 3, Germany 2 (A Weller, A Maasai) 8:57.20. Eights: 1, Romania 6min 45.19sec; 2, Germany 6:52.37; 3, Belarus 6:59.41. Lightweight double sculls: 1, Denmark (L Andersson, A Helleberg) 7min 56.33sec; 2, Germany 2 (M Dorvill, A Brandt) 7:58.72; 3, Romania (I Sava, C Macoviciuc) 8:03.79. Leading standings: 1, Germany 90pts; 2, Britain 37; 3, Denmark 27; 4, France 25; 5, Russia 23; 6, Romania 17.

SCHOOLS SPORT

Cricket

*Brighton 227-8dec, Eastbourne 230-5. *Clifton 173-6, King's Taunton 130-2. *Dean Close 175-6dec, Bloxham 170-9. Enfield GS 119-6dec, *Merchant Taylors, Northwood 120-3. *St Peter's York 272-5dec Ampleforth 156-7. Stamford 240-7dec, *Uppingham 245-1 (J A Bradon 119 not out, R E C Watts 104 not out). *Tonbridge 225-5dec Haileybury 188. *denotes home team.

SWIMMING

SHEFFIELD: Speedo British Grand Prix super final: Winners: Freestyle: 100m: M O'Hare (Ire) 54.05sec. 200m: A Clayton (Leeds) 1min 52.90sec. 1,500m: I Wilson (Leeds) 15min 57.04sec. Breaststroke: 50m: M Giles (Ire) 29.58sec. 200m: A Whitehead (Coventry) 2min 19.88sec. Backstroke: 50m: A O'Connor (Ire) 26.97sec. 100m: A O'Connor (Ire) 58.15sec. 200m: M Walker (Torfaen) 2min 03.76sec. Medley: 400m: I Finnigan (Leeds) 4min 24.24sec. Women: Freestyle: 50m: S Rolph (Newcastle) 26.43sec. 200m: K Pickering (Ipswich) 2min 03.34sec. 800m: K Pickering (Ipswich) 8min 59.55sec. Breaststroke: 50m: S Brownsdon (Coventry) 32.38sec. 100m: S Brownsdon (Coventry) 1min 13.63sec. Backstroke: 50m: S Rolph (Newcastle) 30.41sec. 200m: K Osher (Ealing) 2min 15.49sec. Butterfly: 50m: C Foot (Leeds) 28.55sec. 100m: C Foot (Leeds) 1min 02.61sec. Medley: 400m: J Swallow (Kirkstanley) 4min 56.78sec.

FOOTBALL

World Cup

European qualifying group two

POLAND (0) 0 ENGLAND (1) 2
35,000 Shearer 6
Sheringham 90
(in Katowice)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	6	5	1	0	11	1	16
England	6	5	0	1	11	2	15
Poland	5	1	1	3	3	8	4
Georgia	3	0	0	3	0	5	0
Moldova	4	0	0	4	2	11	0

RESULTS: Moldova 0 England 3; Moldova 1 Italy 3; England 2 Poland 1; Italy 1 Georgia 0; Georgia 0 England 2; Poland 2 Moldova 1; England 0 Italy 1; Italy 3 Moldova 0; Poland 0 Italy 0; Italy 3 Poland 0; England 2 Georgia 0.

MATCHES TO COME: May 31: Poland v England. June 7: Georgia v Moldova. June 14: Poland v Georgia. Sept 10: England v Moldova; Georgia v Italy. Sept 24: Moldova v Georgia. Oct 7: Moldova v Poland. Oct 11: Italy v England; Georgia v Poland.

ASIAN ZONE: Group six: South Korea 0 Thailand 0 (at Seoul). Group eight: Vietnam 0 Tajikistan 4 (at Hanoi).

OCEANIA ZONE: Group two: Papua New Guinea 1 New Zealand 0 (at Port Moresby).

International match

MALTA (1) 2 SCOTLAND (2) 3
Suda 17 Dailly 4
Sultana 57 Jackson 44, 81
3,500
(in Valletta)

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Bologna 2 Internazionale 2; Juventus 2 Lazio 2; Milan 0 Cagliari 1; Napoli 1 Vicenza 0; Piacenza 2 Perugia 1; Reggiana 0 Atalanta 3; Roma 0 Udinese 3; Sampdoria 1 Fiorentina 1; Verona 1 Parma 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	34	17	14	3	51	24	65
Parma	34	18	9	7	41	26	63
Internazionale	34	15	14	5	51	35	59
Lazio	34	15	10	9	54	37	55
Udinese	34	15	9	10	53	41	54
Sampdoria	34	14	11	9	60	46	53
Bologna	34	13	10	11	50	44	49
Vicenza	34	12	11	11	43	38	47
Fiorentina	34	10	15	9	46	41	45
Atalanta	34	11	11	12	44	46	44
AC Milan	34	11	10	13	43	45	43
Roma	34	10	11	13	46	47	41
Napoli	34	9	14	11	38	45	41
Cagliari	34	9	10	15	45	55	37
Piacenza	34	7	16	11	29	45	37
Perugia	34	10	7	17	48	62	37
Verona	34	6	9	19	38	64	27
Reggiana	34	2	13	19	28	67	19

BELGIAN CUP: Final: Eeklo 4 Anderlecht 2 (aet, at King Baudouin Stadium).

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Norway 4 Brazil 2 (at Oslo).

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Sporting Braga 2 Porto 1.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Rayo Vallecano 3 Valencia 1; Real Betis 0 Sporting Gijón 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	39	25	11	3	77	31	86
Barcelona	39	26	6	7	96	45	84
Deportivo	39	20	14	5	56	27	74
Betis Sevilla	40	20	14	6	79	43	74
Atlético Madrid	39	19	11	9	72	56	68
Athletic Bilbao	39	14	16	10	67	54	58
Valladolid	39	16	10	13	54	44	58
Real Sociedad	39	15	9	15	43	44	54
Valencia	40	14	11	15	59	55	53
Tenerife	39	14	10	15	63	51	52
Racing S	39	11	15	13	48	47	48
Zaragoza	39	12	13	14	52	57	49
Compostela	39	12	13	14	46	59	49
Celta Vigo	39	11	13	15	47	50	46
Sporting Gijón	40	12	10	18	42	63	46
Español	39	12	9	18	42	51	45
Rayo Vallecano	40	13	6	21	42	57	45
Oviedo	39	11	11	17	47	63	44
Extremadura	39	10	11	18	33	58	41
Sevilla	39	10	7	22	43	66	37
Hercules	39	10	5	24	35	73	35
Logrones	39	9	5	25	30	77	32

GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayer Leverkusen 2 VfL Bochum 0; Fortuna Düsseldorf 1 Hamburg 1; 1860 Munich 0 Werder Bremen 3; SC Freiburg 1 Karlsruhe 1; Hansa Rostock 0 Schalke 04 1; Stuttgart 4 Arminia Bielefeld 2; Borussia Mönchengladbach 2 Bayern Munich 2; Sankt Pauli 0 MSV Duisburg 2; Borussia Dortmund 2 Cologne 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	34	20	11	3	68	34	71
B Leverkusen	34	21	6	7	69	41	69
B Dortmund	34	19	6	9	63	41	63
VfB Stuttgart	34	18	7	9	78	40	61
VfL Bochum	34	14	11	9	54	41	53
Karlsruhe	34	13	10	11	55	44	49
1860 Munich	34	13	10	11	56	56	49
W Bremen	34	14	6	14	53	52	48
Duisburg	34	12	9	13	44	49	45
Cologne	34	13	5	16	62	62	44
B M'gladbach	34	12	7	15	46	48	43
Schalke 04	34	11	10	13	35	40	43
Hamburg	34	10	11	13	46	60	41
A Bielefeld	34	11	7	16	46	54	40
Hansa Rostock	34	11	7	16	35	46	40
F Düsseldorf	34	9	10	19	26	57	33
Freiburg	34	8	5	21	43	67	29
Sankt Pauli	34	7	6	21	32	69	27

DUTCH LEAGUE: NEC Nijmegen 2 Graafschap Doetinchem 1; Willem II Tilburg 0 FC Volendam 0; SC Heerenveen 1 FC Groningen 3; AZ Alkmaar 1 FC Twente 2; NAC Breda 1 Fortuna Sittard 1; Roda JC Kerkrade 3 PSV Eindhoven 1; Ajax Amsterdam 4 Vitesse Arnhem 0; Sparta Rotterdam 1 RKC Waalwijk 3; FC Utrecht 2 Feyenoord Rotterdam 1.

TOULON UNDER-20 TOURNAMENT: Group A: Portugal 1 Scotland 1 (at Saint Tropez). United States 3 Colombia 1 (at Toulon).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	3	2	1	0	5	1	7
United States	3	1	1	1	4	3	4
Czech Republic	3	1	1	1	1	3	4
Colombia	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
Scotland	4	0	3	1	2	4	3

GROUP B: Morocco 1 Holland 1 (at Six-Fours); Mexico 1 Croatia 0 (at Mallemort).

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Friday: Boston 10 New York Yankees 4; Baltimore 3 Cleveland 0; Milwaukee 5 Chicago White Sox 0; Kansas City 3 Texas 2; Minnesota 4 Anaheim 3; Detroit 5 Seattle 2; Oakland 12 Toronto 7. Saturday: Baltimore 8 Cleveland 5; New York Yankees 7 Boston Washington 2; Toronto 13 Oakland 3; Milwaukee 4 Chicago White Sox 3; Texas 3 Kansas City 1; Detroit 4 Seattle 2; Anaheim 5 Minnesota 3.

	W	L	Pct	GB
East division				
Baltimore	36	15	.706	—
NY Yankees	29	25	.537	8½
Toronto	26	25	.510	10
Detroit	25	27	.481	11½
Boston	22	29	.431	14
Central division				
Cleveland	27	24	.529	—
Milwaukee	25	25	.500	1½
Chicago WS	23	28	.451	4
Kansas City	23	28	.451	4
Minnesota	23	31	.426	5½
West division				
Texas	29	23	.558	—
Anaheim	28	24	.538	1
Seattle	27	27	.500	3
Oakland	22	34	.393	9

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Friday: Cincinnati 5 Chicago Cubs 1; Florida 4 Colorado 3 (12 inns); Pittsburgh 10 Montreal 2; Atlanta 3 San Francisco 2; New York Mets 7 Philadelphia 3; S Diego 9 Houston 2; St Louis 2 Los Angeles 1. Saturday: Colorado 8 Florida 4; Chicago Cubs 7 Cincinnati 4; St Louis 8 Los Angeles 3; Montreal 4 Pittsburgh 2; San Francisco 6 Atlanta 4, New York Mets 10 Philadelphia 3. San Diego 12 Houston 5.

	W	L	Pct	GB
East division				
Atlanta	36	17	.679	—
Florida	31	21	.596	4½
NY Mets	30	23	.566	6
Montreal	28	24	.538	7½
Philadelphia	19	34	.358	17
Central division				
Pittsburgh	26	27	.491	—
Houston	26	28	.481	½
St Louis	24	28	.462	1½
Chicago Cubs	21	32	.396	5
Cincinnati	20	34	.370	6½
West division				
San Francisco	31	21	.596	—
Colorado	29	24	.547	2½
Los Angeles	26	26	.500	5
San Diego	22	30	.423	9

Adedayo Adebayo, of England, bursts through flagging the Argentina defence to score a try during their international match at Buenos Aires. England won the match 46-20. Photograph: Stu Forster/ALLSPORT

TENNIS: FRENCH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men

Singles

Fourth round

F Dewulf (Bel) bt A Corretja (Sp) 5-7, 6-1, 6-4, 7-5

M Norman (Swe) bt M Rosset (Switz) 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3

Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 6-2, 6-3, 7-5

Third round

M Chang (US) bt S Sirman (Fr) 6-1, 5-2 ret

M Rios (Chile) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 7-6, 6-3, 6-4

P Rafter (Aus) bt R Krajicek (Holl) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2

M Woodforde (Aus) bt A Costa (Sp) 6-4, 7-6, 6-3

G Blanco (Sp) bt C Woodruff (US) 7-6, 6-3, 7-6

P Korda (Cz) w/o W Ferreira (SA) scr

S Bruguera (Sp) bt D Norman (Bel) 6-3, 6-1, 6-3

H Arazi (Mor) bt M Larsson (Swe) 6-2, 6-3, 7-5

Doubles

Third round

T Woodbridge and M Woodforde (Aus) bt P Korda (Cz) and J Sabenstein (US) 2-6, 6-3, 9-7

R Leach and J Stark (US) bt T Kempers and M Oosting (Holl) 6-3, 6-7, 6-2

Second round

Y Kafelnikov (Russ) and D Vacek (Cz) bt T Nijssen and S Noteboom (Holl) 6-1, 6-4

Leach and Stark bt G Kuerten and F Meligeni (Br) 6-3, 6-3

Kempers and Oosting bt J Bjorkman and N Kulti (Swe) 6-3, 1-6, 6-3

S Groen and J Siemerink (Holl) bt M Bhupathi and L Paes (India) 6-7, 7-6, 6-3

L Arnold and D Orsanic (Arg) bt S Lareau (Can) and A O'Brien (US) 7-6, 4-6, 6-1

J Eltingh and P Haarhuis (Holl) bt P Cash (Aus) and R Reneberg (US) 3-6, 6-1, 6-4

Friday's late results

L Jensen and M Jensen (US) bt E Couto and B Mota (Port) 4-6, 6-4, 11-9

M Philippoussis and P Rafter (Aus) bt J-P Fleurian and S Simian (Fr) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4

Women

Singles

Fourth round

A Coetzer (SA) bt C Martinez (US) 6-7, 6-4, 6-3

R Dragomir (Rom) bt N Arendt (US) 6-1, 6-1

S Graf (Ger) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6-7, 6-2, 6-2

I Majoli (Cro) bt L Davenport (US) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2

M Hingis (Switz) bt B Paulus (Austria) 6-3, 0-6, 6-0

A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt N Zvereva (Bela) 6-4, 6-2

Third round

Hingis bt A Kournikova (Russ) 6-1, 6-3

M Seles (US) bt N Tauziat (Fr) 6-0, 6-1

Sánchez Vicario bt D van Roost (Bel) 6-0, 6-3

M Pierce (Fr) bt S Testud (Fr) 6-1, 6-3

M J Fernandez (US) bt F Perfetti 6-3, 7-6

Zvereva bt B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) 7-6, 6-4

Paulus bt S Farina (It) 6-4, 6-1

L Raymond (US) bt K Po (US) 6-4, 2-6, 6-1

Friday's late result

Arendt bt J Novotna (Cz) 3-6, 6-4, 6-4

Doubles

Second round

L Davenport (US) and J Novotna (Cz) bt A Huber (Ger) and M Seles (US) 7-5, 7-6

Y Basuki (Indo) and C Vis (Holl) bt I Gorrochategui (Arg) and L Wild (US) 6-3, 6-3

N Arendt (US) and M Bollegraf (Holl) bt E Lorr and A Mauresmo (Fr) 3-6, 6-3, 9-7

R Dragomir (Rom) and I Majoli (Cro) bt W Probst (Ger) and A Sugiyama (Japan) 5-7, 6-4, 6-4

M Paz (Arg) and R Simpson (Can) bt K Adams and L McNeil (US) 6-4, 6-3

N Kijimuta and N Miyagi (Japan) bt V Csurgo (Hun) and L Horn (SA) 6-3, 6-3

Friday's late results

C Martinez (Sp) and P Tarabini (Arg) w/o M Pierce (Fr) and A Coetzer (SA) scr

H Nagyova (Slovakia) and P Schnyder (Switz) bt C Rubin (US) and B Schultz-Mccarthy (Holl) 6-1, 6-2

S Farina (It) and G Pizzichini (It) bt K Boogert (Holl) and I Spirlea (Rom) 7-5, 1-6, 6-2

Mixed doubles

Third round

M Oremans and H J Davids (Holl) bt D Graham (US) and E Ferreira (SA) 6-4, 6-3

R Hiraki (Japan) and M Bhupathi (India) bt A Fusai (Fr) and D Adams (SA) 3-6, 7-6, 6-4

B Schultz-Mccarthy (Holl) and P Norval (SA) w/o R Dragomir (Rom) and L Paes (India) scr

Second round

L Raymond and P Galbraith (US) bt K Quentrec-Eagle and R Gilbert (Fr) 4-6, 6-2, 6-3

B Rittner and K Braasch (Ger) bt L Neiland (Lat) and A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-3, 7-6

H Sukova and C Suk (Cz) bt K Po (US) and R Bergh (Swe) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2

Graham and Ferreira bt L Montalvo and L Arnold (Arg) 6-4, 6-4

K Rinaldi-Stunkel and T Kronemann (US) bt K Boogert and M Oosting (Holl) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4

Dragomir and Paes bt E Likhovtseva (Russ) and J Tarango (US) 7-6, 6-4

Oremans and Davids bt L Pleming (Aus) and N Broad (GB) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4

Hiraki and Bhupathi bt K Kunce (Aus) and S Davis (US) 2-6, 6-2, 9-7

R McQuillan and D McPherson (Aus) bt C Vis (Holl) and B Talbot (SA) 6-4, 7-5

Fusai and Adams bt M Lamarre and O Delaitre (Fr) 7-5, 6-2

A Dechaume-Balleret and J-P Fleurian (Fr) bt A-G Sidot and L Roux (Fr) 7-6, 6-4

M Paz and P Albano (Arg) bt H Vildova (Cz) and F Messori (It) 6-3, 7-5

Schultz-McCarthy and Norval bt Y Basuki (Indo) and T Nijssen (Holl) 6-3, 7-5

R Grande (It) and L Pimek (Bel) bt L McNeil and T J Middleton (US) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4

A Kournikova (Russ) and M Knowles (Bah) bt F Labat (Arg) and A Kratzmann (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 9-7

Friday's late results

Pleming and Broad bt A Ellwood (Aus) and A Florent (Aus) 6-2, 6-4

McNeil and Middleton bt C Wood (GB) and J Eagle (Aus) 6-3, 7-5

Vildova and Messori bt N Miyagi (Japan) and G van Emburgh (US) 6-3, 6-2

Po and Bergh bt A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) and M Bahrami (Iran) 6-1, 6-3

Montalvo and Arnold bt G Helgeson Nielsen and J Waite (US) 7-5, 6-4

McQuillan and MacPherson bt S Jeyaseelan (Can) and T Kempers (Holl) 3-6, 6-4, 8-2

Quentrec-Eagle and Gilbert bt S Testud (Fr) and P Kilderry (Aus) 6-3, 6-4

Dragomir and Paes bt R Simpson (Can) and J Grabb (US) 6-2, 6-0

Lamarre and Delaitre bt E Wagner (Ger) and S Groen (Holl) 6-2, 6-3

Rittner and Braasch bt M de Swardt and G Stafford (SA) 6-2, 6-4

Kunce and Davis bt A Mauresmo and S Grosjean (Fr) 6-7, 6-4, 6-3

M Bollegraf (Holl) and R Leach (US) bt A Dechaume-Balleret and J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-7, 6-3, 6-2

A Kournikova (Russ) and M Knowles (Bah) bt F Labat (Arg) and A Kratzmann (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 9-7

First round

P Tarabini and J Frana (Arg) bt K Adams and M Kell (US) 6-4, 6-1

Labat and Kratzmann bt N Arendt and L Jensen (US) 3-6, 7-6, 8-6

BOYS': Singles: First round: D Sherwood (GB) bt P Srichaphan (Thai) 7-6, 2-6, 6-3; L Horna (Peru) bt I Bates (GB) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4

GIRLS': Singles: First round: M Middleton (US) bt A Tordoff (GB) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3

RUGBY UNION

International matches

Argentina 20 England 46

Argentina: Tries: Arbizu, Quesada, Solan. Con: Quesada. Dropped goal: Quesada. England: Tries: Adebayo 2, Catt, Clarke, Diprose, Greenstock. Cons: Catt 5. Pens: Catt 2.

(at Buenos Aires)

Romania 20 France 51

Romania: Gontineac, Radoi. Pens: Nichitean 2. Cons: Nichitean 2. France: Vendin 2, Bernat-Salles 2, Viars 2, Benazzi, Penaud, Merle. Cons: Lamaison 2, Sebastien Viars.

(at Bucharest)

French championship

Final

Toulouse 12 Bourgoin 6

Toulouse: Pens: Deylaud 3. Dropped goal: Deylaud. Bourgoin: Pens: Geany 2.

(at Parc des Princes)

Tour matches

W Province 21 British Isles XV 38

Western Province: Tries: Brink, Muir 2. Cons: Montgomery 3. British Isles XV: Tries: Bentley 2, Evans, Tait. Cons: Simpson 3. Pens: Simpson 4.

(at Cape Town)

Thames Valley 12 Ireland Dev XV 38

Thames Valley: Tries: Ryan, Swindells. Con: Williams. Ireland Development XV: Tries: Clarke, Fitzpatrick, O'Meara 2, Woods. Cons: Governey 2. Pens: Governey 3.

(at Pacoral)

Super 12 tournament

Final

Auckland 23 ACT 7

Auckland Blues: Tries: Dowd, Jones. Cons: Cashmore 2. Pens: Cashmore 3. Australian Capital Territory Brumbies: Try: Roff. Con: Roff.

(at Eden Park)

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Currie Cup: Griqualand West 43 S W Districts 17

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League

Salford 24 Bradford 40

Salford Reds: Tries: Faimalo, Martin, McAvoy, Smith, Watson. Goals: Blakeley, Watson. Bradford Bulls: Tries: Bradley 2, Calland, Forshaw, Lowes, Tomlinson, Wittenberg. Goals: McNamara 6. Att: 8,241

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Leeds Rhinos 50 Warrington Wolves 12; London Broncos 30 Sheffield Eagles 12; Wigan Warriors 58 Paris Saint-Germain 20; Oldham Bears 12 Castleford Tigers 12.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bradford	13	13	0	0	467	246	26
Leeds	13	9	1	3	363	262	19
Wigan	13	9	0	4	414	219	18
London	13	8	2	3	362	243	18
St Helens	12	7	1	4	337	273	15
Halifax	13	7	1	5	348	317	15
Salford	13	7	0	6	252	285	14
Sheffield	13	4	0	9	270	334	8
Warrington	13	4	0	9	270	470	8
Oldham	13	3	1	9	267	370	7
Paris	13	2	0	11	215	365	4
Castleford	14	1	2	11	185	366	4

(Not including last night's match Halifax Blue Sox v St Helens)

First division

Huddersfield 56 Hull K R 10

Huddersfield Giants: Tries: Booth, Cook 2, Dixon, Fozzard, Hanger 2, King, Schofield, Sturm, Weston. Goals: Cook 6. Hull Kingston Rovers: Tries: Rouse, Windley. Goal: Everitt. Att: 3,104

Hull 40 Whitehaven 12

Hull: Tries: Craven, Donohue, Hewitt, Jackson, Schultz, Vaikona 2. Goals: Hewitt 6. Whitehaven Warriors: Tries: Fatialofa, Jackson. Goals: Hetherington 2. Att: 4,548

Widnes 19 Keighley 12

Widnes Vikings: Tries: Currier 2, P Smith. Goals: Long 3. Dropped goal: Long. Keighley Cougars: Tries: Firpo, Flynn. Goals: Roberts, Robinson. Att: 2,200

Workington 24 Swinton 12

Workington Town: Tries: Heaton, Keenan, Mafi 2, Williams. Goals: J Smith, Williams. Swinton Lions: Tries: Price-Jones, Riley. Goals: Craig, Pearce. Att: 909

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull	14	13	1	0	414	149	27
Huddersfield	14	11	0	3	424	227	22
Keighley	14	7	1	6	338	257	15
Wakefield	13	7	1	5	264	279	15
Whitehaven	14	7	1	6	268	299	15
Dewsbury	12	6	0	6	238	271	12
Swinton	14	5	0	9	248	336	10
Featherstone	13	4	1	8	276	269	9
Hull K R	14	4	1	9	276	353	9
Widnes	13	4	0	9	171	380	8
Workington	13	3	0	10	234	321	6

(Not including last night's match Featherstone Rovers v Dewsbury Rams)

Second division

Batley 38 Doncaster 22

Batley Bulldogs: Tries: Case, Moron, Price 3, Thornton, Walker. Goals: Price 5. Doncaster Dragons: Tries: Goulbourne, Watson, Moore, Smith, Tigg. Goal: Pell. Att: 757

Carlisle 46 Lancashire Lynx 33

Carlisle Border Raiders: Tries: G Charlton 2, Menihera 2, McGonan 2, Menzies, Stevens. Goals: Richardson 7. Lancashire Lynx: Tries: Briscoe 2, Byrne, Francis, Ruane. Goals: Allday 2, Francis 4. Dropped goal: Ruane. Att: 406

Prescot 27 York 32

Prescot Panthers: Tries: Drummond, Mercer 2, Taylor. Goals: Jackson 5. Dropped goal: Wallington. York Wasps: Tries: A Preston, Ball, Fitzgerald 2, Limb, Pallister. Goals: Fitzgerald 4. Att: 278

Rochdale 74 Barrow 10

Rochdale Hornets: Tries: Bunce 2, Farrell 4, Flanagan, Gartland 3, Hayes 2, Marriott, O'Keefe. Goals: Gartland 9. Barrow Braves: Tries: Marwood, Shaw. Goal: Atkinson. Att: 709

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rochdale	14	12	0	2	458	231	24
Carlisle	14	10	0	4	364	232	20
Batley	13	9	0	4	406	263	18
Lancashire L	13	9	0	4	359	264	18
Hunslet	13	8	0	5	402	196	16
Leigh	12	8	0	4	293	258	16
York	14	6	0	8	294	346	12
Barrow	13	5	0	8	236	482	10
Bramley	13	4	1	8	253	298	9
Doncaster	15	1	1	13	206	504	3
Prescot	14	1	0	13	177	495	2

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: International match: Bala Great Britain 15 France B 14 (at the Boulevard, Hull)

ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Hull Kingston Rovers 28 Wigan Warriors 32

AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE: North Queensland Cowboys 10 Cronulla Sharks 24; Hunter Mariners 24 Brisbane Broncos 6; Adelaide Rams 16 Canberra Raiders 34; Perth Western Reds 24 Auckland Warriors 12

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (ARL): St George 20 Newcastle 18; Manly 10 Balmain 14

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manly	12	8	2	2	270	197	18
North Sydney	12	7	1	4	272	184	15
Newcastle	11	7	0	4	236	160	14
Sydney City	12	7	0	5	268	199	14
Parramatta	12	7	0	5	200	201	14
W Suburbs	12	6	0	6	172	177	12
St George	12	6	0	6	200	220	12
Illawarra	12	4	3	5	228	206	11
Gold Coast	12	5	1	6	229	249	11
Balmain	12	5	0	7	173	192	10
South Sydney	11	3	1	7	181	316	7
S Queensland	12	2	0	10	159	312	4

CLUB CRICKET

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT LEAGUE: Aston Unity 227-3 Stratford 219-9; Barnt Green 234-6 Smethwick 237-1. Kidderminster 139-7 Walsall 194-1; O Hill 125-1 Wolverhampton 121; West Bromwich Dartmouth 241 Coventry and North Warwicks 206-8.

FORT STERLING BOLTON LEAGUE: Bradshaw 103 Astley Bridge 104-6; Egerton 215-5 Egerton 212-8; Farnworth S C 220-8 Greenmount 212; Heaton 168 Tonge 169-2; Horwich 222-8 Kearsley 212; Little Lever 142 Westhoughton 232-5; Walkden 168 Farnworth 123-9 (match drawn).

BOWERS GROUP BRADFORD LEAGUE: Baildon 184-4 Pudsey Congs 132-6; Bradford and Bingley 149-9 Brighouse 137; East Bierley 198-8 Hanging Heaton 202-3; Windhill 221-6 Pudsey St Lawrence 145; Saltaire 236-4 Drighlington 159; Farsley 190 Spen Victoria 189; Idle 193-7 Undercliffe 194-2.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: Rochdale 200-9 Middleton 201-5, Stand 196-6 Royton 103, Walsden 128 Werneth 127-4, Ashton 131 Littleborough 132-4; Milnrow 210-4 Norden 212-5; Radcliffe 186 Stockport 187-5.

MURRAY SMITH and CO CHESHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE: Bowdon 227-4 Toft 153-7, Grappenhall 219-6 Nantwich 225-4; Heaton Mersey 99 Poynton 100-2; Macclesfield 216-6 Warrington 217-7; Upton 184 Didsbury 158-9; Alsager 183-9 Widnes 166-3.

VAUX DURHAM SENIOR LEAGUE: Eppleton 146-7 Durham C A 147-4; Felling 199-5 Durham City 194-9, Chester Le St 206-8 Gateshead Fell 207-1; Horden 189 Burnmoor 165-9, Boldon 194 Philadelphia 180-6; Seaham Harbour 111 Wearmouth 112-3. Whitburn 196-7 South Shields 182-9.

COLOUR ASSEMBLY ESSEX LEAGUE: Colchester and E Essex 215-7 Fives and Heronians 146; Gidea Pk and Romford 156 Chelmsford 157-5; Leigh On Sea 40 Hainault and Clayhall 44-3; Hutton 171-9 Ilford 172-8; Horndon On The Hill 204-9 Loughton 205-2; Orsett and Thurrock 217-5 Westcliff On Sea 170-4; Saffron Walden 179-9 Hadleigh and Thundersley 182-5. Chingford 208 Shenfield 209-1; Wanstead 230-2 Wickford 170; Woodford Wells 200-6 Stanford Le Hope 125-9.

DRAKES HUDDERSFIELD LEAGUE: Section A: Honley 201-9 Kirkburton 218-6; Skelmanthorpe 199-9 Elland 200-2; Meltham 173-5 Broad Oak 169-9; Scholes 212 Marsden 141-8; Shepley 157-9 Linthwaite 158-6; Slaithwaite 167-4 Lascelles Hall 168-4; Thongsbridge 171-2 Holmfirth 170-8. Section B: Armitage Bridge 182, Dalton 199-8; Elland II 183-8, Skelmanthorpe II 131-7, Golcar 206-6, Almondbury 154-7; Huddersfield and Lockwood 204-9, Kirkheaton 281-8; Paddock 181-5, Kexborough 192-8, Primrose Hill 146-6, Hall Bower 298-4; Rastrick 146, Halifax 272-5.

WOOLWICH KENT LEAGUE: Hayes 164 Beckenham 187-2; Bexley 153-0 Midland Bank 152; Gore Court 212-3 Bickley Park 180; Blackheath 234-6 Dartford 238-4; Ash-d 200-5 Chestfield 150-8; Gravesend 237 Folkestone 239-7. Holmesdale 191-9 Sevenoaks Vine 192-3; Dover 61 RACS 62-2; St Lawrence 245-2 Tunbridge Wells 191; The Mote 185-8 Bromley 186-4.

LEES BREWERY LANCASHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE: Denton 254-6 Cheetham Hill 188-9; Dukinfield 208-4 Denton St Law 116, Longsight 209-5 Glossop 184-9; Denton West 107 Prestwich 110-3, Roe Green 237-7 Irlam 96; Woodbank 234-7 Thornham 202, Woodhouses 162 Sale Moor 124.

BURTONWOOD BREWERY MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT LEAGUE: Brooksbottom 184-5 Deane and Derby 163; Bury 186-7 Stockport Georgians 187-3; Newton Heath 202-9 Earlestown 202-8 (match drawn); Flixton 112 Ashton-On-Mersey 113-5; Lytham 213-5 Monton 212-7; Stretford 202-8 South West Manchester 153-8; Whalley Range 138 Weaste 139-5; Winton 149 Wythenshawe 150-0.

HAMPTON TRUST MIDDLESEX COUNTY LEAGUE: Brentham 146 Teddington 147-1; Enfield 230-8 Wembley 257-4, Richmond 241-7 Finchley 242-2; Hornsey 165 Hampstead 166-2; Nth Middlesex 98 Ealing 100-5; Southgate 259-7 Stanmore 236-9; Brondesbury 259-6 Sth Hampstead 192; Eastcote 245-8 Uxbridge 249-1; Shepherds Bush 187-9 Winchmore Hill 189-5.

MIDLAND COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Bedworth 179 O Edwardians 108-7; Droitwich 126 Blossomfield 127-5; Hampton 275-2 Lichfield 158; Nuneaton 165 Streetly 169-4; Redditch 174-8 Worcester NT 169-9.

NORWICH UNION NORFOLK ALLIANCE: North Runcton 192-5 Old Buckenham 193-2; Norwich Barleycorns 178-4 Cromer 77; Norwich Wanderers 159-8 Dereham 155-9; Swardeston 158-4 Vauxhall M 155.

WILLIAM YOUNGER NORTH LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: Barrow 198-7 Cleator 150-8. Dalton 141-4 Askam 137-8; Furness 152-4 Workington 151-9; Haverigg 150-9 Carnforth 104-5 (match drawn); Penrith 225-6 Vickerstown 176-5; Ulverston 101 Carlisle 102-5; Vickers Sports 205-7 Millom 252-6; Whitehaven 240-4 Lindal 184-8.

NORTH STAFFS AND SOUTH CHESHIRE LEAGUE: Ashcombe Park 188-9 Newcastle and H 189-7; Bignall End 216-5 Stafford 150-7, Elworth 240-3 Little Stoke 243-5; Knypersley 202-6 Leek 203-4; Longton 164 Cheadle 131-9; Moddershall 175-7 Audley 147-9; Stone 236-4 Crewe 131-4.

WATKIN JONES NORTH WALES LEAGUE: Bethesda 223-7 Connahs Quay 207-6; Llandudno 136-8 Hawarden Park 137-5; Mochdre 301-5 Bangor 152-8, Pontblyddyn 194-7 Halkyn 195-3; Ruthin 123-9 Llay 124-1. Postponed: Gresford v Brymbo.

DARLINGTON BUILDING SOCIETY NORTH YORKSHIRE/SOUTH DURHAM LEAGUE: Richmondshire 103 Blackhall 104-1; Darlington 236-8 Hartlepool 171-7. Bishop Auckland 243-5 Darlington R A 198. Normanby Hall 199-9 Marske 197; Norton 202 Northallerton 161-6; Guisborough 200-9 Redcar 139-9; Saltburn 140 Thornaby 74; Middlesbrough 234-1 Stockton 184-9.

VAUX NORTHERN LEAGUE: Darwen 226-6 Blackpool 149; Fleetwood 183-4 Leyland 179; Leyland Daf 150 Kendal 151-3; Netherfield 177 Lancaster 157-8. Preston 89-9 Chorley 191-7; Annes 226-2 Morecambe 182-8.

PRIORY NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY LEAGUE: Tynemouth 221-5 Alnwick 225-0; Ashington 242-5 Blyth 211-6. Backworth 112-8 Morpeth 113-1. Tynedale 202-4 Benwell Hill 191-9. Benwell 167 County Club 168-3. South North 226-7 Percy Main 156-7.

VAUX RIBBLESDALE LEAGUE: BGSOB 144-2 Cherry Tree 143-7. Clitheroe 179-5 Earby 169. Great Harwood 176 Stacksteads 179-9. Old Rossendalians 72 Burnley Belvedere 73-3. Padiham 229-2 Ribblesdale W 228-2; Salesbury 209-7 Rolls Royce 123.

WELSH BREWERS SOUTH WALES ASSOCIATION: Briton Ferry Steel 215-7 Swansea 208. Ynysgerwn 197-6 Ammanford 113; Ynystawe 149 Pontarddulais 152-4, Dafen 198-8 Gowerton 141-9. Neath 215-7 Llangennech 213-8.

PETER COOPER VOLKSWAGEN SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Bournemouth 310-5 Bashley 192. South Wilts 238-8 BAT Sports 240-8. Hungerford 248-8 Burridge 234, Old Tauntonians 149 Calmore Sports 152-4; Havant 176 Hambledon 168; Portsmouth 293-5 Liphook and Ripsley 210-7; New Milton 183-8 US Portsmouth 186-6, Lymington 212 Waterlooville 216-5 Romsey 165-9 Winchester KS 165-8 (match drawn).

EVE SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP: Bank Of England 196 Malden Wanderers 197-5. Banstead 227-8 Maori 226-7; Beddington 141-5 Spencer 221-6; Cheam 253-1 Met Police 251-9; Farnham 192-7 Sutton 191-6; Limpsfield 215-8 Esher 216-3; Mitcham 219-4 Wimbledon 220-7; Old Emanuel 145-8 Ashford 185-8; Sunbury 224-6 Honor Oak 225-3 Walton-On-Thames 160 Guildford 226-5. Weybridge 162-9 Reigate Priory 201-7.

MORRANT THAMES VALLEY LEAGUE: Basingstoke 192-3 Hayes 191-9. Wokingham 252-8 O M T 253-3; Chesham 251-8 Harefield 157. High Wycombe 182-9 Boyne Hill 154-9 Marlow 261-4 Amersham 260-5. Ickenham 101-0 Reading 97. Maidenhead and B 140-9 Cove 164 Slough 246-5 Kidmore End 209-9 Tring Park 244-6 Beaconsfield 245-6. Hounslow 137 Finchampstead 140-2.

APS TWO COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Achilles 298-7 Mildenhall 302-9. Halstead 247-5 Braintree 169 Sudbury 115 Bury St Edmunds 117-2 Witham 131 Clacton 132-3. Frinton 73 Maldon 75-2.

VAUX TYNESIDE SENIOR LEAGUE: Swalwell 149 Wrekenton 150-3. Blaydon 196-8 Shotley Bridge 175-9. Greenside 196-9 Seaton Burn 113. Lintz 221 South Moor 220-8; Consett 195-5 Annfield Plain 93. Ryton 257-7. Burnopfield 241.

WEST LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: St Johns 101-9 Acton 107-6 Goodlass 80 Essemmay 30 Salisbury 105 Merseybus 86 Winwick 107 Singleton 78 Longwall 183-3 Haydock 141 Winstanley 118 Billinge 92-2.

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE: Castleford 175-8 Sheff Coll 176-4, Doncaster 207-7 Rotherham 85-8; Sheff Utd 209-8 Driffield 205-7 York 240-8 Barnsley 244-8 York Academy 212-7 Cleethorpes 214-3. Harrogate 252-3 Appleby Frodingham 168-5 Scarborough 218-9 Hull 231-5.

AUSTRALIAN POOLS CHECK

VICTORIA: Second division: East Altona (1) 2 Ringwood C (0) 0; E Richmond (3) 6 Bell Park (2) 2; Frankston 5 (0) 0 Altona City (2) 3; Knox City (0) 2 Glen Eira (1) 1; Mooroolbark (1) 1 E Brunswick (0) 0; Oakleigh (0) 1 Regent (0) 0. Third division: Diamond V (0) 2 S Werribee (1) 2, Geelong (1) 2 Banyule (0) 0, Keilor (1) 2 Chelsea (2) 3, Melbourne C (2) 2 S Caulfield (0) 2; Nunawading (0) 0 Fitzroy (1) 3; Pascoe Vale (1) 3 N Coburg (1) 1; S Springvale (1) 3 Cranbourne (0) 1. Fourth division: Corio (2) 2 Seaford United (0) 2, Lalor (0) 1 Langwarrin (0) 1, Monbulk (0) 0 Clifton Hill (0) 2, Moreland (0) 2 Sun Heights (0) 1; Sandringham (1) 5 Geelong R (1) 1; Sunbury (0) 2 Keysborough (2) 2, Williamstown (0) 0 Stonnington (0) 1.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Premier division: Athena (0) 2 Knights (1) 5; Bayswater (1) 4 Swan I C (0) 0, Dianella (1) 1 Sorrento (0) 1, Inglewood (2) 3 Stirling M (0) 2, Morley (0) 2 Perth (3) 4, Spearwood (3) 3 Kingsway (0) 0. First division: Balga (0) 1 Southside (4), Leeming (0) 0 Armadale Pk (0) 0, North Lake (1) 3 Ashfield (3) 10, Perth City (1) 1 Bassendean (1) 2, Queens Pk (1) 2 Rockingham (0) 2, Stirling S (1) 6 University W A (1) 2; Wanneroo (0) 1 Cockburn (0) 0.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Premier League: Adelaide R (2) 3 Campbelltown (0) 0; Blue Eagles (1) 2 Port Lion (1) 2; Salisbury (0) 0 Olympians (2) 2; Woodville (1) 1 W T Birkalla (1) 3. First division: Adelaide City (0) 1 W Adelaide (0) 0, Elizabeth (0) 4 Port Pirie (1) 3, Enfield (3) 4 Seaford (1) 3; Modbury (0) 2 Cumberland (1) 3; Noarlunga (0) 1 Croydon (0) 2, Plympton (0) 0 Para Hills (2) 5.

NEW SOUTH WALES: First division: Auburn (0) 0 Ryde (2) 3; Belmore (1) 4 Greystanes (0) 0; Hurstville C (0) 0 Penrith (1) 1. Fourth division: Earlwood (0) 0 Maroubra (0) 1; Mascot K (0) 1 Balmain (2) 3, Springwood (1) 1 Lithgow (1) 3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
1	1	2	1	3	1	3	2	1	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	3
1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

FORECASTS: Half-time: Telephone claims for 23pts, although winnings sent automatically, forecast is very good: seven score draws and ten no-score draws. Full-time: Telephone claims for 23 and 24pts, although winnings sent automatically, the forecast is very good: eight score draws and one no-score draw.

THE TIMES
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Miniature perfection on the Piddle

Small is beautiful fishing in Lilliput

By Brian Clarke

AS MIGHT be guessed by its name, streams do not come smaller than the Piddle. It is a tiny thing, winding and winking like a tinselled thread, with the lushness of deep Dorset all about.

The Meon, in Hampshire, is a *mighty affair. There are* deeps and glides, tumbles and rapids. In places the Meon is more than a rod's-length wide. It flows through country not unlike that around the Piddle, but on Hampshire's larger scale.

Both streams are as clear as a young girl's eyes. Golden gravels cover their beds. Everywhere green ranunculus sweeps and curls on the currents and the water plays with the daisy chains the delicate plants offer up. Here and there trout — small trout, wild trout, fin-perfect and beautiful trout — rise in the channels *and in shady places under the* banks.

Fishing both of these River Tests-in-miniature, *together with* a couple of other waters too small and obscure to name, proved a joy *in the last week of* May. But then, fishing in Lilliput is always a joy.

There is an intimacy about a tiny stream that a big river, by its nature, cannot possess. Things are usually seen in close-up or else not seen at all.

On the Meon a water vole sat up like a squirrel and nibbled a strand of weed inches from my wellies as I crouched in deep cover. On the Piddle a water vole swam from my bank to the other, right into the sun. For just a second a globule of water somehow balanced on its back. It caught the light like the Koh-i-noor.

On one of the tiniest streams a kingfisher rounded the bend up stream, saw me and simply kept on coming, perhaps because I was standing still. It jinked and banked around me, almost squeezing by.

Several times in Lilliput I found I had to wade: the awkwardness of the banks, or the way the trees reached and met overhead, meant that getting into the water was the only way to fish.

Wading in Lilliput with the water sleeking and racing all about seems, for all one's disproportionate size, to absorb physically, to draw one down into the whole living organism. The stream seems to accept someone wading — someone wading sensitively and carefully — the way fish swimming deep will accept a diver. It is as though being in there, being a part of it, makes the awful intrusion less.

Wading through a tunnel on the Meon I got so close to a trout that I could have reached down and tickled it. On the Piddle a fish drifted out from a *ranunculus bed and settled* down to feed steadily on passing flies, tilting and sipping, maybe eight feet away.

Of course, when fishing in Lilliput, everything needs to be scaled down — expectation no less than tackle. Leviathans do not normally swim in tiny streams though, these being chalk streams, the fish still can surprise. One man I know makes a speciality of finding and catching big fish from waters that are hardly there at all. He has had fish over three pounds from one stream so narrow that I can literally step over it.

Yet still, the average fish in Lilliput weighs three or four ounces, a good fish goes half a pound, a corker *about three-quarters*. It was with much incense-burning and camera-clicking that I *returned* a wild brown trout of around 14 ounces to one of the Piddle's deeper pools and I lost — will I blow all credibility to suggest it? — a fish that would have gone the whole-hog pound.

> 'Things are seen in close-up or else not seen at all'

On all four little streams I used the same 6ft 9in split-cane wand my wife bought for me — well, allowed me to buy — one of those Big Zero birthdays long ago. It fishes a 4-weight line. If you point it in the right direction and the wind is at all forgiving, it will put a fly onto a saucer at short range. Which, of course, was exactly what was wanted. There was never much fly about. The chaffinches and the wagtails seemed to get most. The trout saw a few and took them. Most of the time it was a case of standing for long periods without fishing at all, or reading the water and casting to likely spots.

Fly fishing offers many rewards, but few are as fulfilling as knowing that you have read the water well. Here is the river, winding and sliding. More than half the surface — often much more than half — is covered with ranunculus flowers swaying and curtsying. Channels between the beds open and close, currents cut into bends, water falters ahead of this obstruction, there is something oddly attractive about that place over there.

Where will the fish be? Where will a big fish be? If I were a fish wanting maximum food for minimum effort, where would *I* want to be? The eye searches, the mind weighs, the cast responds. Here. There. A little beyond that and just to the right.

A *single cast to* each is usually enough to pass judgment. The spawning in Lilliput is usually good and there are usually too many fish competing for the food. That is why they tend to be small. That is why, if they see something that might be food, they grab it.

In a way, fishing in Lilliput is like fishing in childhood. All-beguiling and never a dull moment. But then, how would it not be like fishing in childhood? It was by the streams of Lilliput that most anglers grew up. It was Lilliput that stuck the stars in our eyes. I loved going back for those few sun-lit days. I plan a return visit, soon.

With the lushness of deep Dorset all about, fishing the Piddle is a joy. Despite the size of the stream, wading is often necessary

Keep our opinions to yourself.

It's all very well to say share and share alike, but in all honesty wouldn't you prefer to enjoy at leisure your own copy of the Times Educational Supplement? The FE Focus section, in particular, really does deserve much more than a rushed flick through in the staffroom. So for opinions worth taking the time to listen to, buy your own copy, take it home and keep it to yourself.

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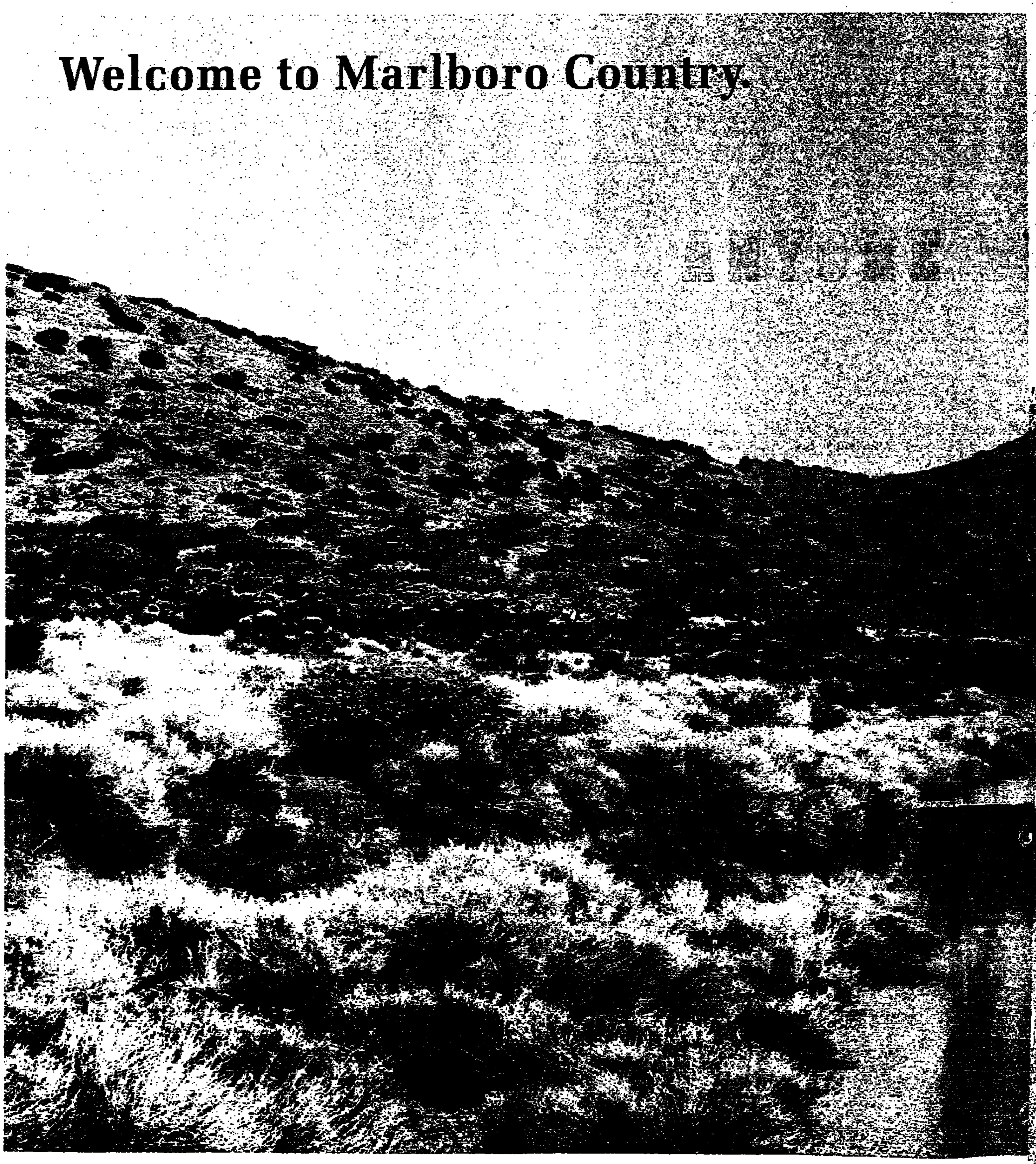

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هكذا من الاهل

SAILING: SHALLOT WINS GOLD ROMAN BOWL AFTER SLOW START

Moody masters world's largest yacht race

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

THERE were more than 100 fewer boats than last year, but the world's largest yacht race, the 61st Hoya Round the Island Race, was still every bit as spectacular as 1,242 yachts in 41 classes took their chances in Mediterranean weather conditions on Saturday.

Last year, the strong and blustery northwesterly set up the opportunity for a new monohull record of 5hr 12min, claimed by Mike Slade's maxi *Hoya Longobarda*. This year, with lighter conditions and the breeze coming in from the north-east, record-breaking on the 50-mile course around the Isle of Wight was not on the cards.

However, for the first time since 1988, the fleet set off downwind, making for a colourful display as hundreds of spinnakers made their way down the Solent with the first of the ebb, out towards the Needles. Then it was a long and exhausting beat up the southern side of the island to St Catherine's Point and on to Bembridge, before the yachts were freed as they headed back down to the finish off Cowes.

The overall winner on Channel Handicap, and winner of the Gold Roman Bowl, was the Class 12 mini-tonner, *Shallot*, a 23-foot Julian Everitt design skippered by Martin Moody, from Bursledon, Hampshire. Moody, who was sailing with Spencer Wright, Steve Laurie and Ian Lovering, bosun to the British Olympic team in Atlanta last year, said that he knew he was doing reasonably well once they started going to windward on the south shore of the island.

Results 35

"It was slow to start with because there was very little wind, but, as we got to the Needles, we realised we had a chance of winning because we were among the bigger boats," he said. "From there it was just a case of pushing all the way."

Second overall in CHS was the 1955-vintage folk boat *Celia Mary*, skippered by Edward Donald, from London, who claimed the same prize four years ago in another folk boat, *Charlotte Sometimes*.

Among the other trophy winners was the 26-foot micro-multihull, *Orion*, skippered by Harvey Bowden, who, in only his second entry in the race, was first to finish in a time of 6hr 14min 8sec to claim the Freedom Challenge Bowl.

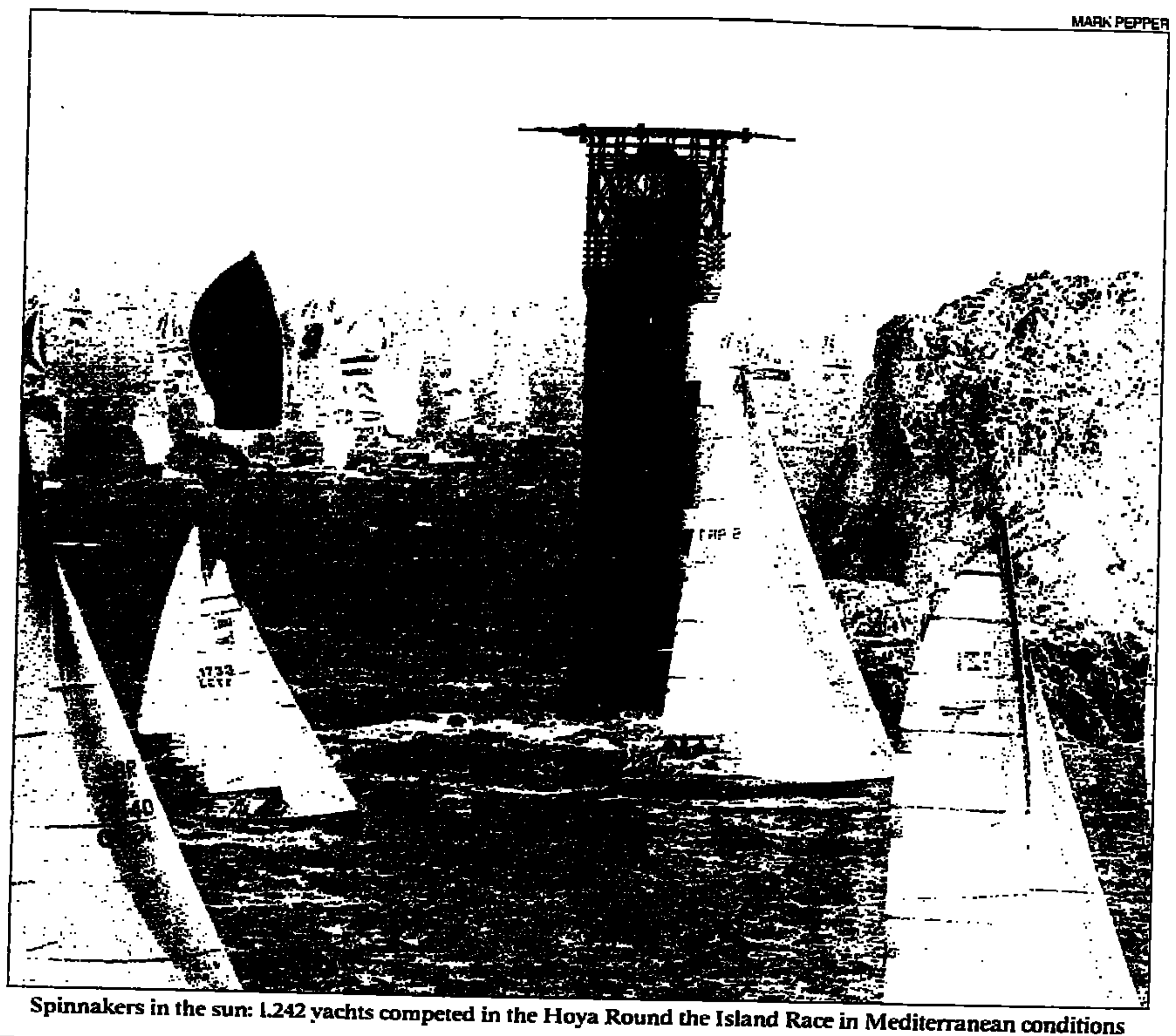
Hoya Longobarda, skippered by Eddie Warden-Owen, won the Observer Trophy for the first monohull to finish and Derek Waiter's successful first 42s7 *Pointe North* won in CHS Class I.

Among the more interesting competitors was Ellen MacArthur, giving her newly-acquired 6½-metre *Le Poisson* its first serious outing with Jez Fanstone as crew.

MacArthur, who is one of two Britons entering this year's Mini-Transat single-handed race, has been working feverishly at Hamble on limited funds to get the boat ready. Conditions were not ideal for the 21-foot "Mini" but she still managed to finish around thirtieth in the 300-strong Island Sailing Club Class I.

"It was brilliant, absolutely brilliant," MacArthur, whose next appointment is the two-handed mini-Fastnet at the end of June, said. "The incredible thing was we were overtaking 35-40 footers — you lose track of how small the boat is doing that."

MacArthur's confidence in her boat and in her own ability to cross the Atlantic on her own at just 19 was endorsed by Fanstone, one of the key members of Lawrie Smith's Silk Cut Whitbread crew, who took the day off to sail with her. "She'll have no problems," he said. "She's pretty well sorted already."


MARK PEPPER

Spinnakers in the sun: 1,242 yachts competed in the Hoya Round the Island Race in Mediterranean conditions

Adela steals march for line honours

By Edward Gorman

ADELA, the 173-foot schooner, was yesterday back at her mooring at the Pendennis Shipyard in Falmouth, where she was built in 1994, after taking line honours in the New York Yacht Club's Rolex Atlantic Challenge Cup.

Although chased most of the way from Sandy Hook by the gaff-rigged 193-foot schooner *Adix*, *Adela*, under the guidance of Steve Carson, stole a march on the rest of the fleet and made it to Falmouth early on Saturday evening.

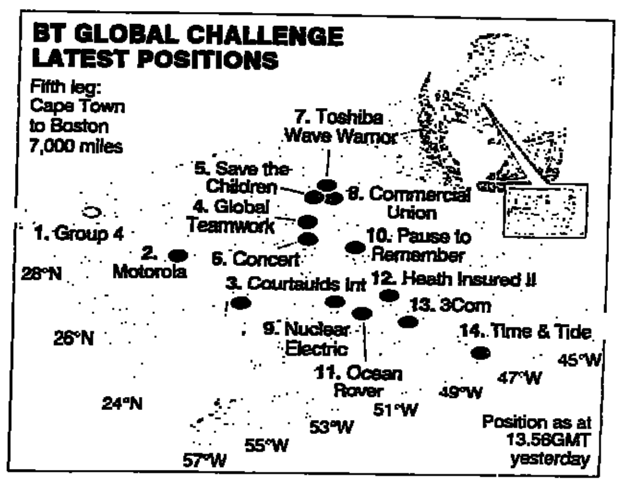
The next yacht in was expected to be the 135-foot ketch *Sariyah*, with *Adix*, skippered by Paul Goss, behind her. The strong north-easterlies in the Atlantic have slowed the remaining yachts and contributed to an increasing list of retirements.

Of the 16 starters who set sail on May 17, only 11 are still racing. *Never Say Never*, the 100-foot Ron Holland cutter, has now given up with a cracked mast. *The Replica of America*, skippered by Paul Deeth, is so far behind the rest of the fleet that she has also retired, while a surprise addition to the list is the 86-foot *Sapphire*, skippered by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston.

In the BT Global Challenge, meanwhile, progress towards Boston in the fifth and penultimate leg, has been slowed by light winds as the yachts continue up the Atlantic towards Bermuda. Mike Golding's *Group 4* remained in the lead yesterday, with a cushion of more than 100 miles to the second-placed *Motorola*, skippered by Mark Lodge.

Simon Walker, on *Toshiba Wave Warrior*, who was in second place overall at the start of the leg, a total of 22 hours behind, is back in seventh position, about 250 miles adrift, while Andy Hindley, on *Save The Children*, who held third place overall, is fifth.

On *Motorola*, the crew was celebrating moving up to second place on the western edge of the fleet. "Spirits are high as we race towards Boston," they reported. "With only 1,300 miles to go, *Group 4's* lead seems insurmountable but, with a little luck, who knows?"



DISTANCE TO FINISH (at 13.56 GMT yesterday, with miles to Boston): 1, Group 4 1,119; 2, Motorola 1,248; 3, Courtaulds International 1,350; 4, Global Teamwork 1,401; 5, Save the Children 1,405; 6, Concert 1,407; 7, Toshiba Wave Warrior 1,416; 8, Commercial Union 1,428; 9, Nuclear Electric 1,472; 10, Pause to Remember 1,475; 11, Ocean Rover 1,513; 12, Heath Insured II 1,543; 13, 3Com 1,582; 14, Time and Tide 1,690.

CYCLING

Dangerfield finally claims elusive title

By Peter Bryan

STUART DANGERFIELD finally achieved one of his biggest ambitions yesterday when he won the blue riband of British cycling, the national 25-mile time-trial championship, at his ninth attempt.

Victory at Yarm, in North Yorkshire, was not handed to him on a plate, but came from a determination that did not show signs of bearing fruit until the last five miles. His ride showed all the tenacity that is the hallmark of the man he succeeds as champion, Graeme Obree.

Dangerfield's time of 51min 10sec was 22 seconds outside the course record held by Chris Newton, who was second yesterday, five seconds adrift. The pair had turned the trial into their own private contest by the halfway point, after which the riders ran into a nagging northeasterly wind, with conditions made even harder by the hilly terrain on the A19.

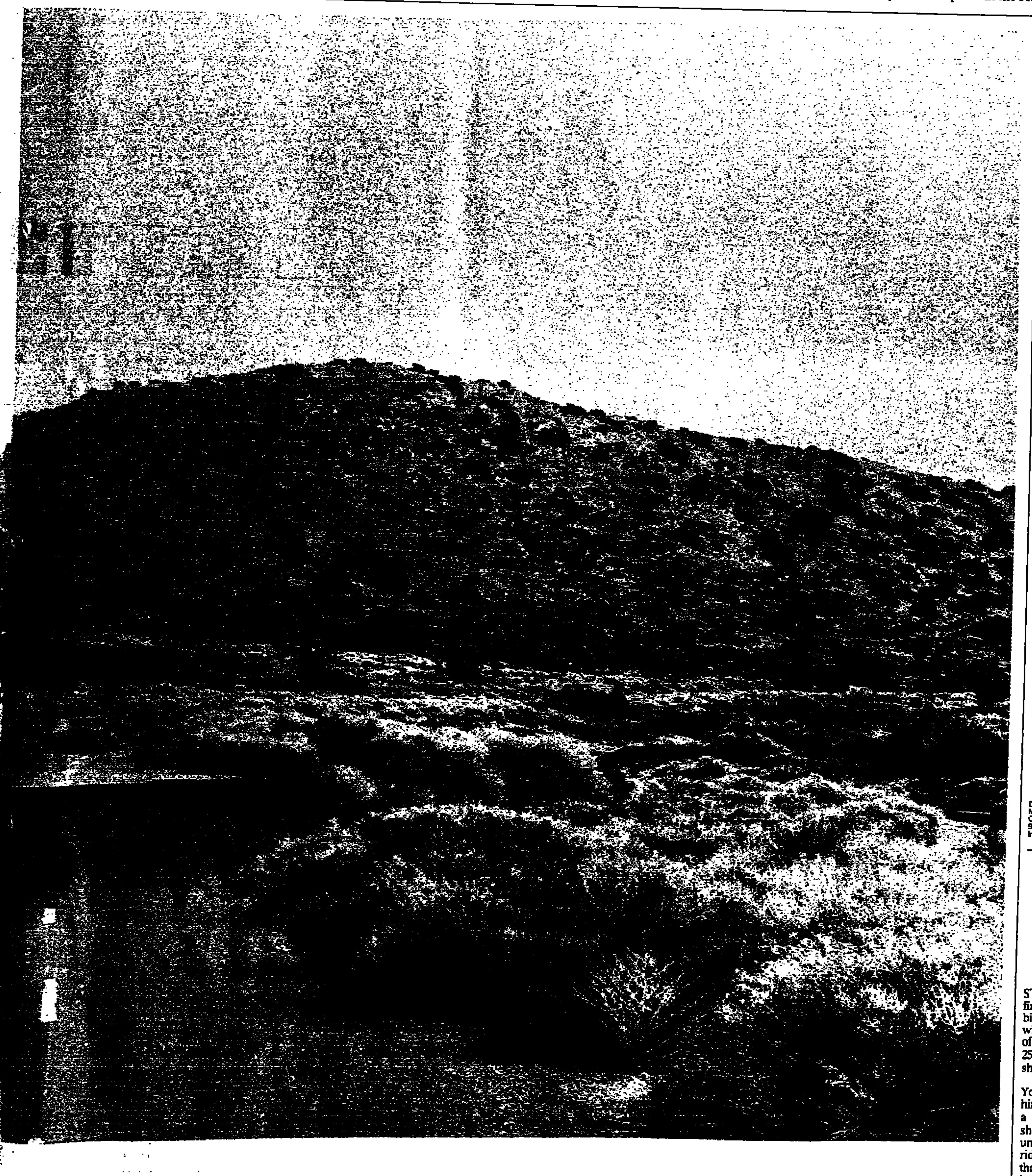
Dangerfield put his poor start down to a disturbed night at his hotel. "I felt dreadful when I started," he said, "but, as the miles went by, my legs began to feel better." The news that he was 15 seconds down on Newton with five miles to go appeared to spur him. Whenever he could, he pushed hard into the wind, using a mammoth top gear of 128 inches.

Dangerfield is no stranger to championship success — he has won the national hill-climb title on four occasions since 1992. Still rankled by his non-selection for the 1996 world time-trial championship, he now hopes to be rewarded with a place in the Britain squad this year.

Later this month, to underline his claim, he competes in the British 50-mile championship and the Isle of Man trial over one lap of the 37¾-mile TT circuit. Newton, named in Britain's team for the six-day Tour of Sweden starting on June 11, will then take six weeks off before returning to his base in France to prepare for the Tour de l'Avenir.

Sean Yates, the champion in 1980, finished fifth yesterday after being third fastest to the halfway point.

Results, page 35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هكذا من الأصل

Christian Dymond puts on his whites, picks up his mallet and asks if there is 'Anyone for croquet?'

Running through the hoops

SPORT FOR ALL

TED DITCHBURN

Trotman says artificial surfaces are being considered for croquet because the drought is creating problems with lawns

For a while last century, croquet attracted the kind of following that might have given it a regular place on television, had the technology existed. Then tennis came along and spoilt the party — the All England Croquet Club became the All England Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club in 1877 — and even after a croquet revival in Edwardian times, tennis maintained the upper hand.

During the past few years, though, croquet has made a remarkable comeback. About 400,000 people now play the game in all its forms: association croquet, golf croquet, short croquet (a shorter version of association croquet) and croquet at home in the garden. Golf croquet is a simplified form of the association game, involving two or four people playing alternate shots.

There are 130 clubs registered with the Croquet Association, which this year celebrates its centenary with an exhibition of memorabilia including equipment, trophies and photographs, now open in the museum of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club at Wimbledon.

"Croquet is no longer the preserve, if it ever was, of old colonels and their bejewelled wives. Nor is it a game played solely on the lawns of large country houses. These and other myths the secretary of the Croquet Assocation, Paul Campion, is keen to dispel.

"It is a sport which attracts a large number of young people and one of the few games in which men and women of all ages can compete on equal terms," he said. Most internationals are in their twenties and thirties. The world champion is Chris Clarke, 25, of England.

The most northerly club in England is at Belsay Hall, an English Heritage property in Northumberland where the spectacle of members in their white attire playing croquet in Belsay's nationally renowned gardens makes for a perfect cameo of an English summer's day.

It was here that I learnt how to play association croquet, the most complex form of the sport and one which has two variations in itself — the advanced version for better players and the handicap game enjoyed by everyone.

The idea of association croquet is for one side (either an individual or a pair) to run two balls through six hoops twice in a prescribed order and then to hit the centre peg. You can make use of your opponent's croquet balls as much as you like to do this. It sounds simple enough but in reality I suspect you need the vision of a Beckenbauer and the skill of a Ken Doherty to be a champion.

The hoops are like door frames from Lilliput and getting a ball through one is no easy matter, such is the minimal clearance (a 16th of an inch) on either side. Belsay's club captain, Roger Peters, says that on extremely hot days the black ball can swell slightly, so adding to the difficulties.

The first hoop you encounter is always painted blue along the top, the last one — red — is called Rover. At the end of each turn, you always attach a small clip (like a clothes peg) on to the hoop you are going for next. This clip is the same colour as the ball you are playing.

The first thing I tried to master was how to hold the mallet, then how to hit the ball in the right place — the "sweet spot" as John Grant, the chairman, described it. "Stand with your feet not too far apart, but far enough that you don't hit your ankles, which can be very painful," Liz Nisbet, a club member, said.

For my first game I opted for the yellow and red balls, Peters had the black and blue. Being heavily handicapped, I was awarded 12 bisques (extra turns) to take whenever I wanted, which was frequently.

At the start, all four balls had to be hit from a point one yard in from the boundary line. Next I chose to strike my red ball — but as the distance was too far to "run" (pass through) a hoop, I aimed it at Peters's black ball instead.

Hitting the black or "making a roquet" gave me an extra shot. I picked up my red ball, placed it touching the black and struck it again, aiming for a point in front of the hoop. This is the "croquet shot", which is followed by the "continuation shot".

The mantra "roquet, croquet, continuation" was buzzing in my head all morning but these shots are the very basis of Association Croquet. What you are trying to do is to use all four balls and set up a break which leaves your opponent out of play — etiquette demands that he or she watches from the sidelines during your turn — while you carry on running as many hoops as you can.

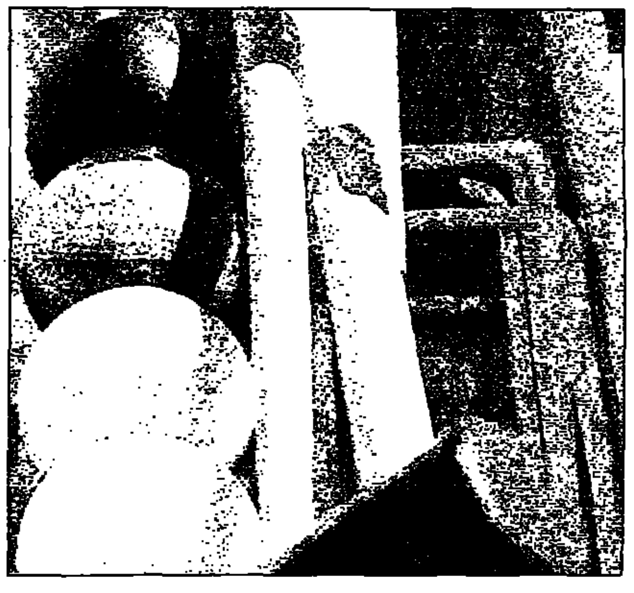
Having run all the hoops, you can go for the centre peg. Hitting it is known as "pegging out".

Of course, if your break comes to an end, you do not want your opponent to walk on and find all four balls in a wonderful position to start a prolonged break. As Peters put it: "You should always consider the consequences of failing in any particular shot. That may influence whether or not you play that shot."

The game contains elements that are common to golf, snooker and chess in that you need to know how hard to hit the ball, how to angle your shots and how to think several moves ahead. Brute force is not required. But patience most certainly is.

Belsay has two lawns but a number of clubs, such as Southwick near Brighton, have more. Derek Trotman, the chairman of both the Croquet Association's development committee and the northern federation of the Croquet Association, says artificial surfaces are being considered, mainly because the drought is creating so many problems with the maintenance of lawns.

Artificial lawns would also allow people to play through the winter, which would give a major boost to this rejuvenated sport.



EQUIPMENT is normally supplied when you join a club but if you want to buy your own the cost is: mallet, £55-£150; balls, £90-£180 for set of four; hoops, up to £170 for a set of six; pegs, from £15; a croquet set which includes all the above: £250-£2000.

STARTING OUT

The Croquet Association, The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PR. Tel: 0171-736 3148. The Association supplies details of clubs and sells equipment. *Know the Game, Croquet* by Bill Lamb (published by A&C Black) is available from the Association for £3.99 plus 35p p&p.

The centenary exhibition of the Croquet Association is in the museum at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon: 0181-946 6131. Tues-Sat: 10.30-17.00. Sunday 14.00-17.00. Price: adults £2.50, students and senior citizens £1.50.

Belsay Croquet Club: 01661 825186. Belsay Hall, castle and gardens: 01661 881636. Open until October 31, daily 10.00-18.00 (or dusk). Adults £3.50, concessions £2.60, children £1.80.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

West had to be awake on this hand. The play revolved round endplaying the declarer.

Dealer South *Game all* *Match-pointed pairs*

```
              ♠9843
              ♥A7432
              ♦6
              ♣962
♠K6                      ♠Q1075
♥KJ965         N         ♥108
♦K852        W   E       ♦J3
♣AJ            S         ♣KQ854
              ♠AJ2
              ♥Q
              ♦AQ10974
              ♣1073
```

W	N	E	S
—	—	—	1D
1H	Pass	Pass	2D
All Pass			

Contract: Two Diamonds by South. Lead: six of hearts

South had already achieved a good result by buying the contract in Two Diamonds, since East-West can make eight or nine tricks in a heart contract. He ran the six of hearts to his queen — West, having bid hearts, was likely to have the king; winning the ace of hearts would have given declarer little play for his contract. When the queen scored it made it impossible for the opponents to play hearts again without giving declarer access to the stranded ace.

Declarer exited with the ten of clubs which West won with the jack (the ace would have been better). Now West, Amanda Hawthorn, bridge author, teacher and regular at Amersham Bridge Club, deduced that it was declarer who had the singleton heart, not her partner. If declarer had had two hearts he would have been playing on trumps. So she cashed the ace of clubs and played a diamond to the jack and queen. Declarer played the ace and the nine of diamonds but West played her king and gave declarer the lead with her last diamond. After cashing all the diamonds declarer played ace and another spade but West played the king under the ace and East had the rest of the tricks for a one-trick defeat.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Alarming opening

Nigel Short continues to score with the most amazing opening variations. In the Madrid tournament he has landed another direct hit with a discarded version of the King's Gambit where White's king wanders around the middle of a crowded board. Stunned by Short's unusual choice of opening, Black missed a draw with the beautiful variation 22 ... Re2+ 23 Kg3 (or 23 Kg1) 23 ... Rxg2+ 24 Kxg2 Qe2+ with perpetual check.

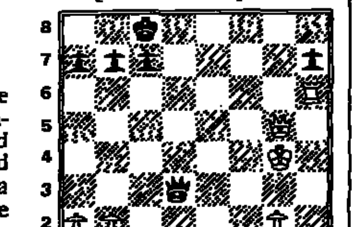
White: Nigel Short
Black: Jeroen Piket
Madrid, May 1997

King's Gambit

1	e4	e5
2	f4	exf4
3	Nf3	Be7
4	Nc3	Bh4+
5	Ke2	d5
6	Nxd5	Nf6
7	Nxf6+	Qxf6
8	d4	Bg4
9	Qd2	Nc6
10	c3	0-0-0
11	Qxf4	Qe6
12	Ke3	g5
13	Nxg5	Bxg5
14	Qxg5	f5
15	h3	Nxd4
16	cxd4	Rxd4
17	hxg4	Rxe4+
18	Kf2	fxg4
19	Rh6	Rf8+
20	Kg1	Rxf1+
21	Kxf1	Re1+
22	Kf2	Qe2+
23	Kg3	Qd3+
24	Kxg4	

Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Coulsdon chess

Neil McDonald continues to lead in the international tournament in Coulsdon.

White: Timmermans
Black: McDonald
Coulsdon International, 1997

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	e5
5	Nb5	d6
6	c4	Be7
7	N1c3	a6
8	Na3	Be6
9	Bd3	Bg5
10	0-0	Bxc1
11	Rxc1	Nge7
12	Nc2	Ng6
13	Nd5	0-0
14	Qd2	Qh4
15	f4	exf4
16	Nxf4	Qg5
17	Rcd1	Nxf4
18	Qxf4	Qa5
19	Qh4	Ne5
20	b3	Bg4

White resigns

☐ *Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.*

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GHEG
a. Soured camel's milk
b. An Albanian
c. Ice hockey equipment

FACULA
a. Duplication
b. Latin translation
c. A sunspot

GAMBALOCKE
a. A bear hug
b. A musical form
c. An Eastern riding coat

FAJA
a. A kind of toffee
b. A sash or girdle
c. A Mexican festival

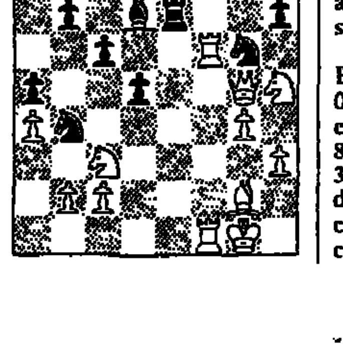
Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Palkovi — Boros, Hungary 1997.

White's powerful concentration of force on the kingside gives him the opportunity for a quick kill. Can you see how?



Solution on page 46

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Typical Example	APR	48 Monthly Payments	Total Amount Paid	Direct Loan Saving
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TSB	[illegible]	£116.33	£5,583.84	£423.84
Barclays	[illegible]	£114.68	£5,504.64	£344.64
NatWest	[illegible]	£112.78	£5,413.44	£253.44

Lender		A £7,000 Loan		
Typical Example	APR	48 Monthly Payments	Total Amount Paid	Direct Loan Saving
RB Direct	[illegible]	£186.66	£8,959.68	
Barclays	[illegible]	£200.69	£9,633.12	[illegible]
TSB	[illegible]	£197.40	£9,475.20	[illegible]
NatWest	[illegible]	£194.27	£9,324.96	[illegible]

[illegible]

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RACING: NUREYEV COLT GIVES FABRE AND WILDENSTEIN OVERDUE FIRST VICTORY IN FRENCH DERBY

Peintre Celebre shows classic acceleration

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT
AT CHANTILLY

ONE of racing's great anomalies was wiped from the slate here yesterday when André Fabre, Europe's outstanding trainer, saddled his first winner of the Les Emirats Arabes Unis Prix du Jockey-Club (French Derby).

A model of pragmatism and restraint, Fabre struggled hard to amplify his thoughts after Peintre Celebre summoned brilliant acceleration to cut down Oscar and Astarabad inside the final furlong. On this evidence the colt, only the second by his sire, Nureyev, to reach the highest class over middle distances, will make a formidable opponent for Entrepreneur — assuming the latter follows the script at Epsom on Saturday.

BIG-RACE DETAILS

Going: good

3.20 LES EMIRATS ARABES UNIS PRIX DU JOCKEY-CLUB
(Group I 3-Y-O: £280,548 1m 4f)

PEINTRE CELEBRE ch c Nureyev - Peinture Bleue (D Wildenstein) 9-2 O Peslier 1.

Oscar b c Sadler's Wells - Snow Day (W Said) 9-2 S Guillot 2.

Astarabad b c Alleged - Anaza (Aga Khan) 9-2 G Mosse 3.

ALSO RAN: Fragrant Mix (4th), Ithaki (5th), Shaka (6th), Voyagers Quest (7th), Kashwan (8th), Bonapartiste (9th), Fier Danseur (10th), Casey Tibbs (11th), Arabian King (12th), Perfect Paradigm (13th). Speedfriend 14 ran. 3l, ½l, 4l, 5l, ¾l. A Fabre. Pari-mutuel (inc 1fr stake): 4.10, 2.10, 3.10, 4.20. DF: 25.70. 2min 29.60sec

Peslier expresses his delight after partnering Peintre Celebre to an impressive victory in the French Derby at Chantilly yesterday

PHIL COLE/ALLSPORT

"The result is really rewarding for everyone," an elated Fabre said. "He has been lightly raced because this has been his goal. He is by a fantastic sire and I was never worried about him staying. It has been a long wait but I am more happy for the owner, Daniel Wildenstein, than for me."

In this contest Peintre Celebre displayed the hallmarks expected of Entrepreneur. The colt's ability to carry his speed over 12 furlongs will make him hard to master and racing can now embrace the prospect of a golden season, with older horses such as Helissio, Singspiel and Pilsudski lying in wait for the young tyros.

First, however, Entrepreneur must strut his stuff and the performance here of Voyagers Quest — who beat Entrepreneur's principal opponents, Benny The Dip and Silver Patriarch, on his previous outing — served only to increase expectations. Voyagers Quest duelled with the other British challenger, Perfect Paradigm, but the colt weakened tamely to finish seventh. Perfect Paradigm fared even worse, beating only one home. The Tote responded by shortening Entrepreneur's Derby odds to 5-4 on.

The pity is that Peintre Celebre was not saved for Epsom. Understandably, his owner, the octagenarian Wildenstein, preferred to race on his home turf. Wildenstein, a Paris-based art dealer, has long annexed the sport's glittering prizes but, like Fabre, he had never previously triumphed in the Prix du Jockey-Club. He savoured Peintre Celebre's victory from the comfort of the Chantilly restaurant but his son, Alec, left no doubt about the horse's place in their hearts.

"This is the most serious racehorse we have ever had," Wildenstein insisted. That is praise indeed, for the family's litany of champions includes the likes of Allez France, Sagace, All Along and Pawneese. The last-named, winner of the Oaks and King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes, is also the great-granddam of Peintre Celebre.

All options are open for Peintre Celebre. Wildenstein said he and his father would be guided by Fabre's instincts, with the Irish Derby high on the agenda. He also fired a shot across the bows of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, the jewel in French racing and a prize won three times by the family. "Today the Arc has become a small race," he said. "They don't sponsor it enough and the Breeders' Cup may be a more important event."

Earlier in the afternoon, Entrepreneur's supporters received another lift when Starborough, fourth in the 2,000 Guineas, made every post a winning one in the Prix Jean Prat. Starborough disposed of Mamalik's strong challenge inside the final furlong but the latter remains a colt of great promise. Richard Hills, riding Mamalik, was adjudged to have interfered with Cirino early in the race, but the four-day ban he received (June 10 to 13 inclusive) allows him to ride at Royal Ascot.

Starborough, meanwhile, is bound for the St James's Palace Stakes. He surprised all bar his trainer, David Loder, when fourth at Newmarket and can now be entertained in the highest league. "Lester Piggott rode him in his work before the Guineas and he said the horse would definitely finish in the first four," Loder recollected. Further dividends for Starborough seem assured.

Pipe and McCoy continue dominance

MARTIN PIPE and Tony McCoy, champion trainer and jockey respectively, again dominated this season's National Hunt campaign, which closed on Saturday at Market Rasen.

The two record breakers were even more dominant this term than last. Pipe topped the trainers' table with a record £1,360,000 in prize-money, more than £300,000 clear of the runner-up, David Nicholson.

Pipe also sent out more than 200 winners for the fifth time, but the first since 1991-92, and his final tally of 212 was 112 more than anyone else.

Nor was it just a numbers game for Pipe in 1996-97. His four winners at the Cheltenham Festival, a postwar record, included the second Champion Hurdle victory of his career with Make A Stand.

He was partnered by McCoy, who largely filled the void at Nicholashayne left by David Bridgwater's surprise decision to quit as stable jockey midway through the season.

McCoy bettered Peter Scudamore's record for the fastest century and ended up with 190 winners, 59 clear of the runner-up, Jamie Osborne.

McCoy landed both of jumping's championship events as he added the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Mr Mulligan to Make A Stand's triumph.

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.15 Asfurah
2.45 Tymeera
3.15 Star Profile
3.45 SCARABEN (nap)
4.15 Kilshanny
4.45 Keen Dancer
5.15 Purist

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.15 WELL WARNED.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.15 Kilshanny. 5.15 PURIST (nap).

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. *The Times Private Handicapper's rating.*

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.15 EBF WOLVEY MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,366: 5f 2yd) (10 runners)

101	(5)	220	ARIAN DA 9 (J Hamilton-Jones) B Palling 8-11	T Sprake	95
102	(7)		ASFURAH (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-11	L Dettori	–
103	(1)		HELENES HILL (J Starbuck) C Smith 8-11	J Fortune	–
104	(9)	22	INDIAN SILVER 20 (BF) (A Andrews) M Channon 8-11	R Hughes	96
105	(2)	4	LADY IN WAITING 16 (Pegasus Racing Ltd) P Cole 8-11	T Quinn	[illegible]
106	(3)		LADY YAVANNA (N Kersey) N McAuliffe 8-11	J Reid	–
107	(6)		SAINT ANN (G Middlebrook) M Johnston 8-11	R Hills	–
108	(8)		SENTINELLA KEY (S Swenby) M Heaton-Ellis 8-11	S Drowne	–
109	(10)	4	SUPACALIFRAGILISTK 12 (W Gredley) C Brittain 8-11	B Doyle	–
110	(4)		WILD LILLY (W Dixon) M Ryan 8-11	G Carter	–

BETTING: 9-4 Asfurah, 3-1 Lady In Waiting, 7-2 Indian Silver, 7-1 Saint Ann, Supacalifragilistk, 12-1 Arian Da, 16-1 Lady Yavanna, Sentinella Key, 20-1 others

1996: COWRIE 8-11 J Reid (11-8 fav) R Johnson Houghton 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARIAN DA best effort neck 2nd of 12 to Supreme Angel in auction maiden at Newbury (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. INDIAN SILVER 1¼l 2nd of 5 to Balance The Books in novice race at York (5f, good). LADY IN WAITING about 2½l 4th of 14 to Dance Trick in maiden at Newbury (6f, soft). SUPACALIFRAGILISTK about 11l 4th of 8 to Shadow Of Doubt in maiden at Goodwood (6f, good).
Selection: ARIAN DA

2.45 PETRACO 100 NOT OUT SELLING HANDICAP
(£2,847: 5f 218yd) (22 runners)

201	(16)	0-0020	TYMEERA 14 (D,F,G) (Glenbrook Associates) B Palling 4-9-11	T Sprake	92
202	(10)	-40450	PETRACO 7 (CD,F,G,S) (E Mehmet) N Smith 9-9-9	L Dettori	87
203	(19)	030444	THE FRISKY FARMER 4 (CD,F,S) (G Bush) W G M Turner 4-9-6	D McGaffin (7)	92
204	(5)	006465	SOUND THE TRUMPET 23 (G) (Mrs J Nichols) R Spicer 5-9-6	R Havlin (3)	91
205	(20)	500-00	RED TIME 28 (V) (Mrs D Saunders) M Saunders 4-9-5	R Price	85
206	(9)	-56060	SHARP RETURN 21 (B,D,S) (Mrs T Baron) M Ryan 3-9-4	A Clark	92
207	(22)	520100	ASTRAL INVADER 42 (C,D,F,S) (M Saunders) M Saunders 5-9-3	R Perham	[illegible]
208	(4)	151560	NAPOLEON STAR 16 (B,D,F,G) (R Wheatley) S Bowring 6-9-3	S Webster	93
209	(2)	-04660	SWISS COAST 6 (B) (Elite Racing Club) N Tinkler 3-8-13	G Carter	98
210	(7)	605020	MISTER RAIDER 16 (B,D,BF,G) (Raiders Partnership) E Wheeler 5-8-13	A Daly (5)	96
211	(21)	006060	LOCHON 14 (B,D,F,G) (Lochchallenge Ltd) Mrs N Macauley 6-8-12	C Teague (3)	90
212	(13)	230500	SIR TASKER 25 (D,F,G) (J Coupland) J L Harris 9-8-12	D Holland	95
213	(5)	6550-0	LAWSIMINA 9 (Mrs M Easons) D Shaw 4-8-9	J Fanning	85
214	(6)	40-000	WILD NETTLE 7 (Mrs J Cleary) J Fox 3-8-8	M Fenton	85
215	(18)	00/0	LOBKOV 16 (North Cockerham Racing Stables) R Simpson 5-8-8	DOUBTFUL	–
216	(11)	00-030	CHIEF'S LADY 6 (G Fry) J Bradley 5-8-7	R Ffrench (5)	90
217	(17)	00000-	MAZZARELLO 299 (V,F,G) (P Naughton) R Ingram 7-8-6	M Baird (3)	–
218	(15)	6000-0	INVIGILATE 10 (D,F,G) (T Staunton) M Channon 8-8-6	T Quinn	98
219	(3)	000-00	TICKA TICKA TIMING 45 (D,G) (Mrs M Lingwood) B Murray 4-8-4	S Sanders	–
220	(14)	060-00	SILVER MOON 21 (M Sturgess) B McMahon 3-8-3	L Newton	–
221	(1)	0-0000	AMNESTY BAY 14 (G) (M Usher) M Usher 5-8-2	R Brisland (7)	–
222	(12)	000000	MU-ARRIK 9 (V,D,F,G) (R Cook) G Oldroyd 9-7-13	R Mullen (5)	91

BETTING: 6-1 Petraco, 7-1 Napoleon Star, Astral Invader, 8-1 Tymeera, Sound The Trumpet, 9-1 Mister Raider, 10-1 The Frisky Farmer, 12-1 Sharp Return, Lawsimina, Sir Tasker, 14-1 others

1996: SHARP MONTY 3-9-2 L Dettori (8-1) R Hollinshead 21 ran

FORM FOCUS

TYMEERA ½l 2nd of 13 to Shadow Jury in Warwick conditions race (6f, firm) penultimate start with PETRACO 4½l 4th and RED TIME (9lb better off) 8½l 9th. PETRACO 8l 5th of 10 to Comanche Quest in Carlisle conditions race (5f, good to soft) penultimate start. THE FRISKY FARMER 3¾l 4th of 12 to Ivory's Grab Hire in Brighton handicap (6f, firm). ASTRAL INVADER beat Broughtons Turmoil 1¼l in 12-runner seller here (7f, good to firm) Mar 97. NAPOLEON STAR 5l 8th of 18 to Pleasure Time in Nottingham handicap (5f, good). MISTER RAIDER 1¾l 2nd of 8 to Sharp Pearl in handicap at Brighton (5f 213yd, firm).
Selection: ASTRAL INVADER

3.15 SILVER PHEASANT FILLIES CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,727: 7f 9yd) (5 runners)

301	(1)	155-0	STAR PROFILE 22 (G) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 9-2	L Dettori	88
302	(2)	21-4	MESHHED 12 (D,BF,F) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 9-0	R Hills	82
303	(3)	2310-3	WELL WARNED 45 (F) (K Abdulla) B Hills 9-0	Pat Eddery	[illegible]
304	(4)	4	CHINABERRY 12 (Sheikh Marwan al-Maktoum) C Brittain 8-10	B Doyle	78
305	(5)	124-6	NATALIA BAY 9 (F) (P Blacker Studio Partners) P Cole 8-10	T Quinn	83

BETTING: 6-4 Well Warned, 9-4 Star Profile, 11-4 Meshhed, 12-1 Natalia Bay, 14-1 Chinaberry

1996: BEWITCHING 9-0 S Sanders (14-1) J Toller 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

STAR PROFILE about 7¾l last of 7 to Always Loyal in group I Poule D'Essai Des Pouliches at Longchamp (1m, very soft). MESHHED about 3l 4th of 7 to Maid Of Camelot in listed race at Goodwood (1m 2f, good).
WELL WARNED 1¼l 3rd of 10 to Dance Parade in group III Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury (7f, good to firm). CHINABERRY 4l 4th of 16 to St Radegund in maiden at Goodwood (7f, good). NATALIA BAY about 5½l 6th of 7 to Among Men in listed race at Kempton (1m, good).
Selection: WELL WARNED (nap)

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FLAT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
M Johnston	46	46	27	2	-42.33
M Stoute	32	16	18	1	+34.08
R Hannon	32	32	34	3	-137.09
J Berry	31	28	22	1	-56.25

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
K Fallon	59	49	33	2	+50.88
J Weaver	48	43	36	10	+10.59
Pat Eddery	43	30	20	6	-57.42
L Dettori	43	34	26	0	-29.94

3.45 SWANNINGTON CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,784: 1m 8yd) (10 runners)

401	(5)	-50241	GOLDEN THUNDERBOLT 10 (D,G) (Cooltrac Promotions) N Tinkler 4-10-0	L Dettori	[illegible]
402	(7)	0001-4	SCARABEN 10 (D,F,G,S) (J Tennant) S Kettlewell 9-10-0	J Fortune	92
403	(3)		TROJAN HERO (L Jaffee) B Hills 6-10-0	Pat Eddery	–
404	(2)	040-0U	SCOTTISH HERO 10 (B) (Mrs L McCalla) Lady Herries 4-9-6	P Doe (7)	73
405	(4)	00-400	MONEGHETTI 10 (D,G) (P Harvey) J L Harris 6-9-2	R Ffrench (5)	–
406	(8)	21412/	THE EXECUTOR 324J (CD,BF,F,G) (J Joseph) R O'Sullivan 7-9-2	S Sanders	–
407	(6)	0300-0	HARVEST REAPER 7J (J South) J L Harris 5-8-12	S Drowne	76
408	(10)	05	OH SO MISTY 18 (Mrs A Upsdell) S Dow 4-8-9	A Daly (5)	–
409	(9)	035530	ROCHEA 10 (J Teasdale) Mrs N Macauley 3-8-0	B Doyle	88
410	(1)	01000-	BLUEBELL MISS 217 (C,S) (P Aaron) M Ryan 3-7-12	G Bardwell	97

BETTING: 3-1 Golden Thunderbolt, 7-2 Scaraben, 4-1 Trojan Hero, 5-1 The Executor, 7-1 Scottish Hero, 8-1 Rochea, 10-1 Moneghetti, Oh So Misty, 16-1 others

1996: SCOTTISH PARK 7-8-7 S Sanders (7-1) J L Harris 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

GOLDEN THUNDERBOLT beat Whittle Rock head in 11-runner claimer at Pontefract (1m, good) with SCARABEN (3lb worse off) about 1¾l 4th and MONEGHETTI (4lb better off) 24l 9th. SCARABEN best effort beat Broughton's Pride short-head in 14-runner handicap at Musselburgh (1m, good to soft) on penultimate start. MONEGHETTI best effort 6¾l 4th of 19 to Gymcrak Flyer in conditions race at Pontefract (1m, good) Apr 97. THE EXECUTOR short-head 2nd of 7 to Fourforfun in conditions race at Windsor (1m 67yd, good). OH SO MISTY 17½l 5th of 10 to Elly Fleetfoot in seller at Nottingham (1m 2f, good). ROCHEA best effort 4¾l 3rd of 10 to Esperto in seller at Nottingham (1m 2f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: GOLDEN THUNDERBOLT

4.15 JOHN FERNELEY FILLIES HANDICAP
(£3,041: 1m 3f 183yd) (8 runners)

501	(5)	130263	CALENDULA 6 (D,G) (C Spence) D Morley 4-9-10	G Carter	95
502	(7)	3130-0	AFON ALWEN 34 (F) (J Lloyd) S Williams 4-9-7	R Hughes	91
503	(4)	2000-3	ORDAINED 12 (F) (P Ebdon Racing) E Alston 4-9-6	S Drowne	91
504	(8)	506506	REHAAB 10 (F) (Baker Street Partnership) D Morris 4-9-6	Pat Eddery	97
505	(3)	02-42	KILSHANNY 17 (BF) (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani 3-9-3	L Dettori	98
506	(1)	00-034	NICOLA'S PRINCESS 24 (G) (J Graham) B McMahon 4-8-12	T Quinn	[illegible]
507	(2)	5-00	MISELLINA 9 (B & E Bloodstock Ltd) J S Moore 3-8-4	N Adams	88
508	(6)	40-005	CADBURY CASTLE 10 (D Brown & A Ward) M Blanshard 3-7-13	C Rutter	98

BETTING: 7-4 Kilshanny, 3-1 Calendula, 5-1 Ordained, 6-1 Nicola's Princess, 8-1 Cadbury Castle, Afon Alwen, 16-1 Misellina, 20-1 Rehaab

1996: IN THE MONEY 7-8-13 F Lynch (14-1) R Hollinshead 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

CALENDULA neck and short-head 3rd of 18 to Princess Danielle in handicap here (1m 2f, good to firm).
AFON ALWEN best effort 5½l 3rd of 8 to Lady Of Leisure in conditions race at Nottingham (1m 2f, firm) Sep 96. ORDAINED 12l 3rd of 6 to Gold Desire in handicap at Ayr (1m 3f, soft). KILSHANNY neck 2nd of 8 to Janie's Boy in maiden at Thirsk (1m, good). NICOLA'S PRINCESS 6l 4th of 18 to Tonka in handicap at Nottingham (1m 2f, good). CADBURY CASTLE about 10½l 5th of 10 to Right Man in handicap at Nottingham (1m 6f, good).
Selection: CALENDULA

4.45 OLD DALBY HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,509: 1m 1f 218yd) (14 runners)

601	(8)	3010-4	DOUBLE FLIGHT 15 (F) (3rd Middleham Partnership) M Johnston 9-7	L Dettori	87
602	(12)	00-04	KEEN DANCER 14 (Mrs A Farrant) M Bell 9-6	M Fenton	88
603	(13)	-00211	DOUBLE GOLD 5 (D,F,G) (M Edwards) B Meehan 9-6 (5ex)	Pat Eddery	90
604	(14)	63P-50	SWIFTWAY 63 (A White) K Hogg 9-2	T Sprake	85
605	(4)	05-23	POINTE FINE 22 (D Caruth) J Hills 9-1	T Quinn	88
606	(10)	50-0	SODA POP 19 (A Richards) C Brittain 8-11	B Doyle	86
607	(9)	60-60	BATHE IN LIGHT 28 (Cortolon Partnership) Lord Huntingdon 8-11	D Harrison	86
608	(3)	050-	GOOD JUDGE 233 (J Brown & M Dennis) M Hammond 8-10	J Reid	88
609	(6)	00-0	SHARP DEED 24 (P Harriman) P Mulen 8-8	D Holland	86
610	(11)	0-0022	LUDO 5 (M Pescod) R Hannon 8-7	R Perham	[illegible]
611	(1)	600-00	JIB JAB 10 (Mrs L May) Mrs N Macauley 8-6	A Whelan (3)	86
612	(5)	000	GRAND HOTEL 14 (New Friends) P Harris 8-3	A Clark	90
613	(2)	600-40	BEWITCHING LADY 22 (N Cronin) D Arbuthnot 8-0	R Mullen (5)	98
614	(7)	0-004	GOLD CLIPPER 14 (P Aaron) M Ryan 7-10	M Baird (3)	88

Long handicap: Gold Clipper 6-9

BETTING: 3-1 Double Gold, 7-2 Ludo, 5-1 Double Flight, 6-1 Keen Dancer, 7-1 Pointe Fine, 8-1 Sharp Deed, 10-1 Bewitching Lady, Bathe In Light, 12-1 others

1996: PARSA 8-6 Pat Eddery (5-1) J Dunlop 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLE FLIGHT best effort beat Lawn Lothario 2l in 4-runner maiden at Ayr (1m, good to firm) Sep 96. DOUBLE GOLD beat LUDO (20lb better off) 5l in claimer at Newbury (1m 3f, good to firm). POINTE FINE best effort 7l 2nd of 11 to Barba Papa in maiden at Folkestone (7f, good to firm) on penultimate start. LUDO best effort 1½l 2nd of 18 to Scathebury in claimer at Windsor (1m 67yd, soft). BEWITCHING LADY best effort about 6½l 4th of 11 to Star Of Ring in maiden at Thirsk (7f, good to firm) on penultimate start. GOLD CLIPPER about 6½l 4th of 18 to Tycoon Tina in handicap at Musselburgh (1m, good to soft).
Selection: LUDO

5.15 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,639: 1m 3f 183yd) (6 runners)

1	(1)	54	KHAYALI 11 (H al-Maktoum) D Morley 9-0	R Hills	78
2	(6)	0-2	PURIST 48 (R Barnett) M Stoute 9-0	J Reid	[illegible]
3	(5)	60	SARBARON 23 (Resplendent Racing Ltd) P Harris 9-0	A Clark	71
4	(3)	6	ARLETTY 28 (Lord Howard De Walden) H Cecil 8-9	A McGlone	–
5	(4)	4	KILMA 18 (BF) (Sheikh Ahmed al-Maktoum) L Cumani 8-9	L Dettori	83
6	(2)	3	SILVER WHIRL 18 (W & Mrs E Robins) R Charlton 8-9	T Sprake	85

BETTING: 4-5 Purist, 4-1 Kilma, 6-1 Silver Whirl, 8-1 Arletty, 10-1 Khayali, 25-1 Sarbaron.

1996: FOREST HEIGHTS 8-9 L Dettori (20-1) Mrs J Cecil 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

KHAYALI 7½l 4th of 5 to Memorise in maiden at Newcastle (1m 2f, good). PURIST 5l 2nd of 18 to Kingfisher Mill in maiden at Newmarket (1m 2f, good). SARBARON 13½l 7th of 12 to Gentilesse in maiden at Lingfield (1m 2f, soft). ARLETTY distance last of 6 to Shouk in maiden at Haydock (1m 2f 110yd, soft). SILVER WHIRL 6¾l 3rd of 16 to Western Hour in maiden at Salisbury (1m 2f, good to firm) with KILMA 7¾l 4th.
Selection: PURIST

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rns	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Stoute	16	61	26.2	Pat Eddery	41	164	25.0
H Cecil	19	73	26.0	L Dettori	31	154	20.1
P Makin	6	25	24.0	J Reid	16	99	16.2
L Cumani	9	40	22.5	S Sanders	6	40	15.0
R Charlton	5	27	18.5	C Teague	3	23	13.0
R Hannon	29	167	17.4	G Carter	12	106	11.3

Carter booked for Papua

GARY CARTER was yesterday handed his first ride in the *Vodafone Derby* on the Ian Balding-trained Papua.

Carter will get reacquainted with his partner before the big race. He said: "I rode him in the Racing Post Trophy last year, but I will probably go and sit on him this week."

Barry Hills reported that he will be double-handed in the Epsom classic. "I will run Musalsal and The Fly, but no jockeys have been booked yet." Both colts are quoted at 33-1 by Ladbrokes.

David Loder has decided not to run Apprehension, who was sixth in the Dante Stakes. *The trainer said:* "He'll probably go to Royal Ascot instead."

Vickery inches closer to title

POINT-TO-POINT
BY CARL EVANS

SHIRLEY VICKERY inched closer to her first women riders' title when partnering Snitton Stream to victory at the **Exmoor** meeting on Saturday.

At the same fixture, Butler John won the hunt race, his tenth win this year, and he is likely to take the Grand Marnier Trophy, given to the season's most successful horse in point-to-points. Grimley Gale could still draw level, but Butler John's one fourth placing would count in a tie.

Vickery's rise to the top has taken place over a number of years, but she is now regarded as one of the best women amateurs in the country. High-quality conveyances such as Arctic Chill, the national young horse champion, and Grimley Gale, the national mares' champion, have eased her path to the title but she is not afraid to take spare rides on lesser talents.

Snitton Stream's three runs this year, before Saturday, had involved three different riders and form figures of FPP. The seven-year-old had shown fleeting glimpses of promise and was overdue a decent run. What Vickery brought to the equation was confidence and a belief that every ride is a possible winner.

Those who back such riders blindly enjoyed a 12-1 victory by Snitton Stream, who is trained near Buckfastleigh by Miranda Bragg. Incidentally, Bragg's horses will be able to race at a very local venue next season when the former Buckfastleigh racecourse is reopened as a point-to-point venue after 21 years.

Vickery's win took her to 29 and a lead on Saturday of three over Pip Jones. The season's final meeting takes place at Umberleigh, in Devon, next Saturday.

RESULTS: EXMOOR (Bratton Down): Hunt: 1, Butler John (Miss J Cumings, 1-6 fav); 2, Bargain And Sale; 3, Charmers Wish. 4 ran. BFSS: 1, Earl Boon (T Mitchell, 4-9 fav); 2, Milled Oats, 3, Stoney France. 5 ran. Intermediate: 1, Tangle Baron (Miss J Cumings, 5-1); 2, Link Copper; 3, Three And A Half. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Ryme And Run (Miss L Blackford, 11-10 fav); 2, Doparturo, 3, Roof Lark. 6 ran. Men's Open: 1, Fosbury (T Mitchell, 1-6 fav); 2, Arble March; 3, Romany Anne. 5 ran. Open Mdn: 1, Snitton Stream (Miss S Vickery, 12-1); 2, Barnen Powerhouse, 3, Creedy Valley. 12 ran.

YSTRAD TAF FECHAN (Bassaleg): Hunt: 1, Sweet Kildare (J P Keen, 2-5 fav); 2, Lennie The Lion. 2 ran. Rest: 1, Celtic Bizarre (Miss B Barton, 5-6 fav); 2, Top Tor. 2 ran. Confined: 1, Beinn Mohr (E Williams, 2-7 fav); 2, Rusty Music; 3, Cornish Cossack. 3 ran. Mixed Open: 1, Sterling Buck (M FitzGerald, 1-8 fav); 2, Olde Crescent. 2 ran. Intermediate: 1, Icecapade (E Williams, 7-4); 2, How Friendly; 3, Dick's Cabin. 5 ran. Open Mdn: 1, Boddington Hill (I Johnson, 11-10 fav); 2, Ruffinswick, only 2 finished. 6 ran.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: PURIST
(5.15 Leicester)

Next best: Well Warmed
(3.15 Leicester)

HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER
2.30 Sue Me. 3.00 Sun In The Morning. 3.30 Pekay. 4.00 Demolition Jo. 4.30 Campaspe. 5.00 Nornax Lad.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.30 EAST KILBRIDE APPRENTICE SERIES HANDICAP (£2,808: 6f 5yd) (16 runners)

1	(2)	2110	CORNICHE QUEST 2 (D,F,G) M Channon 4-10-0	P P Murphy	94
2	(3)	3642	TROPICAL BEACH 25 (C,D,F,G) J Berry 4-9-9	C Lowther (5)	96
3	(9)	3350	SUE ME 9 (D,S) D Nicholls 5-9-7	Carolyn Bales (5)	96
4	(11)	600-	MARINO STREET 185 (V,G) P Evans 4-9-3	A Bond (5)	80
5	(8)	0-30	WINTER SCOUT 17 (D,F,G) R Fahey 9-9-2	R Winston (5)	90
6	(7)	3513	IMPISH 17 (C,S) T Etherington 3-8-10	J Bramhill	[illegible]
7	(13)	00-4	PALLIUM 2 (F,G) D Nolan 9-8-6	K Sked (3)	98
8	(15)	-344	HENRY THE HAWK 16 (C,D,S) M Dods 6-8-5	S Copp	94
9	(12)	-626	SUNDAY MAIL TOO 25 (F,G) Miss Perratt 5-8-4	D Sweeney	92
10	(4)	000-	SUEDORO 313 (CD,F) J Goldie 7-8-3	T E Durcan	90
11	(14)	4000	CRAIGIE BOY 12 (B,CD,G,S) N Bycroft 7-8-3	P Roberts	91
12	(1)	0605	ANOTHER NIGHTMARE 16 (CD,F,G) R McKellar 5-8-2	J McAuley (5)	89
13	(5)	-004	TERMON 12 (G) Miss L Perratt 4-8-1	M Semple (5)	85
14	(16)	-000	DIET 38 (V,CD,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 11-7-13	A Polli (3)	91
15	(6)	-003	RAGTIME COWGIRL 25 (F) D Nolan 4-7-10	P Bradley (5)	95
16	(10)	5305	SECONDS AWAY 14 (V) J Goldie 6-7-10	Jenny Benson (5)	88

5-1 Impish, 6-1 Corniche Quest, 8-1 Tropical Beach, Sue Me, 10-1 Henry The Hawk, Another Nightmare, Termon. 12-1 others

3.00 BURNBANK CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,430: 5f 4yd) (8)

1	(8)	046	SEVENTH HEAVEN 15 J Berry 9-3	T E Durcan (5)	97
2	(7)	051	SUN IN THE MORNING 7 (D,G) B Meehan 9-0	K Darley	[illegible]
3	(3)	06	DOCKLANDS DISPATCH 7 N Tinkler 8-13	Kim Tinkler	–
4	(1)		PIERPOINT R Fahey 8-13	R Winston (7)	–
5	(4)	3243	FAIRY DOMINO 2 (BF) M Channon 8-12	P P Murphy (3)	98
6	(5)	0	GLASS RIVER 25 P Evans 8-11	J F Egan	–
7	(2)	61	MAKAHU DON 2 (D,F) W Kemp 8-7	P Fessey (3)	73
8	(6)		MICHELEE P Evans 8-4	L Charnock	–

2-1 Sun In The Morning, 3-1 Seventh Heaven, 4-1 Makahu Don, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Fahey, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; J Pearce, 3 from 8, 37.5%; T Etherington, 3 from 11, 27.3%; M Meade, 3 from 12, 25.0%; M Johnston, 28 from 164, 17.1%. JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 38 winners from 148 rides, 25.7%; K Darley, 43 from 213, 20.2%; K Sked, 4 from 24, 16.7%; T Williams, 11 from 83, 13.3%.

3.30 SUNDAY MAIL HANDICAP
(Qualifier: £3,420: 1m 1f 36yd) (8)

1	(8)	-035	PEKAY 7 (BF) M Johnston 4-9-10	J Weaver	96
2	(5)	0-60	ENERGY MAN 8 M Dods 4-9-0	T Williams	93
3	(3)	0001	PRINCIPAL BOY 16 (C,G,S) T Etherington 4-8-8	Dale Gibson	97
4	(6)	40-0	COMIC'S FUTURE 15 J J O'Neill 4-8-4	J F Egan	–
5	(1)	6030	SWEET NOTE 14 Miss L Perratt 3-7-12	N Kennedy	[illegible]
6	(2)	0322	NOBBY BARNES 6 (D,F,G) E Incisa 8-7-10	Kim Tinkler	98
7	(4)	0000	WESTERN VENTURE 16 (F) R McKellar 4-7-10	J Bramhill (5)	90
8	(7)	0500	RAPID MOVER 18 (B,C,S) D Nolan 10-7-10	P Bradley (7)	88

2-1 Pekay, 5-2 Principal Boy, 9-2 Nobby Barnes, 13-2 Energy Man, 8-1 Sweet Note, 16-1 Comic's Future, 20-1 Western Venture, Rapid Mover

4.00 MANDORA MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(Qualifier: 2-Y-O: £2,526: 6f 5yd) (11)

1	(5)	50	SNAPPY TIMES 7 M Dods 8-11	T Williams	–
2	(9)	6423	SWOOSH 7 (B,BF) B Meehan 8-11	D McKeown	80
3	(7)	062	FIVE OF SPADES 20 D Nicholls 8-9	Alex Greaves	94
4	(2)		JOHN BOWDLER MUSIC M Johnston 8-8	J Weaver	–
5	(1)		JUST ANOTHER TIME J Berry 8-7	T E Durcan (5)	–
6	(3)	2	JACMAR 25 Miss L Perratt 8-6	N Kennedy	85
7	(11)	2	MISS DANGEROUS 9 M Channon 8-3	P P Murphy (3)	93
8	(6)	0	SCOTCH TIME 16 R Fahey 8-3	R Winston (7)	–
9	(10)	422	DEMOLITION JO 7 P Evans 8-2	J F Egan	[illegible]
10	(8)	664	MARSKE MACHINE 18 N Tinkler 8-2	Dale Gibson	76
11	(4)	40	SCENE 27 M Meade 8-0	F Norton	72

3-1 Miss Dangerous, 4-1 Demolition Jo, 9-2 Five Of Spades, 7-1 Jacmar, 8-1 Swoosh, 10-1 John Bowdler Music, Just Another Time, 12-1 others.

4.30 RAMILLES LIMITED STAKES
(£2,416: 1m 4f 17yd) (3)

1	(2)	3096	JEAN PIERRE 3 (BF) J Pearce 4-9-6	M Wigham	91
2	(1)	6-21	CAMPASPE 7 (F) J Fitzgerald 5-9-7	R Winston (7)	[illegible]
3	(3)	0602	QUEZON CITY 7 M Camacho 3-8-7	J Weaver	88

6-5 Campaspe, 2-1 Quezon City, 5-2 Jean Pierre.

5.00 BLENHEIM HANDICAP (£3,052: 1m 5f 9yd) (4)

1	(2)	0006	COIS NA FARRAIGE 2 (F) Miss L Perratt 4-9-10	T E Durcan 5	–
2	(1)	/050	NORNAX LAD 7 (CD,F,G) M Meade 9-9-5	F Norton	96
3	(3)	6520	LORD ADVOCATE 14 (B,CD,F,G) D Nolan 9-8-13	K Sked (7)	93
4	(4)	5506	CAROL AGAIN 21 (G) N Bycroft 5-7-13	J Bramhill (5)	[illegible]

9-4 Nornax Lad, Lord Advocate, 5-2 Carol Again, 9-2 Cois Na Farraige

☐ Needle Gun, trained by Clive Brittain and ridden by Brett Doyle, finished third in the group two Grosser Preis der Wirtschaft at Baden-Baden yesterday.

WINDSOR

THUNDERER
6.30 Double Rush. 7.00 Princess Of Hearts. 7.30 Triple Hay. 8.00 Fast Tempo. 8.30 Elly Fleetfoot. 9.00 Shirazan.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
7.30 Yorkie George.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.30 STORACALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS (£3,051: 1m 2f) (25 runners) SKY

1	0215	FAIRY KNIGHT 16 (D,BF,F,G,S) R Hannon 5-10-0	Pat Eddery 1
2	0002	CARBURTON 7 (F,S) J Glover 4-9-10	N Day 3
3	40-0	GUESSTIMATION 10 (D,F,G,S) J Pearce 8-9-5	C Teague (3) 17
4	0002	CAUDILLO 14 (G) Mrs P Dutfield 4-9-5	Aimee Cook (5) 5
5	45/6	BALLYRANTER 16 (V,C,D,F,G,S) H Collingridge 8-9-2	J Quinn 4
6	4202	BAKERS DAUGHTER 18 (CD,G) J Arnold 5-9-1	Martin Dwyer (3) 19
7	6266	FATHER DAN 18 (C,D,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 8-9-0	G Duffield 21
8	0-00	WINDRUSH HOLLY 18 D Elsworth 4-9-0	R Hughes 24
9	-000	KRISTAL BREEZE 10 (C,D,F,G,S) W Muir 5-8-11	W J O'Connor 10
10	00-0	RENATA'S PRINCE 10 (F) K Burke 4-8-9	R Ffrench (5) 18
11	00-2	NOEPROB 14 (C,D,F,G,S) R Hodges 7-8-9	Amanda Sanders (5) 7
12	0-04	DOUBLE RUSH 9 (D,F,G) T Mills 5-8-9	S Sanders 2
13	0334	MARDREW 16 (G) T Clement 3-8-7	A Daly (5) 14
14	-210	DAUPHIN 7 (F,G) W Musson 4-8-5	G Hind 8
15	400-	IMPETUOUS LADY 245 W Musson 4-8-4	J Stack 13
16	0-00	COUNTRY THATCH 14 C Horgan 4-8-3	Paul Eddery 22
17	0020	AFRICAN SUN 20 M Chapman 4-8-3	D R McCabe 11
18	/0-0	COURAGEOUS KNIGHT 12J (F) P Hayward 8-8-1	M Henry (3) 23
19	0006	ONE IN THE EYE 55 J Poulton 4-7-11	N Varley 20
20	0500	SWEET CISEAUX 10 (F) M Heaton-Ellis 4-7-11	J Lowe 12
21	0-00	JUST FLAMENCO 21 (CD,F,S) M Ryan 6-7-11	G Bardwell 6
22	20-0	CHIEFTAIN'S CROWN 7J (B,D,F) T Hind 6-7-10	P Doe (7) 25
23	-400	TAUTEN 7 (V) M Usher 7-7-10	J Marshall 16
24	1340	RING THE CHIEF 12 (G) M Usher 5-7-10	R Brisland (7) 15
25	00-0	MISS CAROTTENE 55 (G) M Ryan 4-7-10	A McCarthy (7) 9

5-1 Fairy Knight, 7-1 Mardrew, Carburton, 8-1 Bakers Daughter, Noeprob, 10-1 Caudillo, Dauphin, Double Rush, Father Dan, 12-1 others

7.00 EVENING STANDARD HANDICAP SKY
(3-Y-O: £3,079: 1m 67yd) (18)

1	14-6	BROUGHTONS ERROR 17 (G) W Musson 9-7	G Hind 6
2	-002	MY BELOVED 18 (BF,F) R Hannon 9-3	W J O'Connor 7
3	0-06	KRISTOPHER 19 J Hills 9-2	R Hughes 14
4	2340	AROUND FORE ALLISS 18 T Mills 9-0	G Bardwell 16
5	3243	INTERDREAM 10 (F) R Hannon 8-13	Pat Eddery 3
6	5-00	DAINTREE 24 H Collingridge 8-12	M Rimmer 1
7	-102	PRINCESS OF HEARTS 8 (B,D,F) M Pipe 8-12	G Duffield 11
8	55-0	CHINGACHGOOK 63 P Harris 8-11	N Day 8
9	-054	RIGHTY HO 10 P Walwyn 8-10	R Price 12
10	-000	LINDEN'S LAD 7 J Jenkins 8-10	G Carter 10
11	5-00	VILLAGE PUB 21 (B) K Cunningham-Brown 8-7	M Roberts 4
12	5200	JOLLY JACKSON 9 R Akehurst 8-7	S Sanders 15
13	-502	AGENT MULDER 18 P Cundell 8-7	R Perham 5
14	05-0	JAVA BAY 18 M Blanshard 8-7	J Quinn 13
15	000	BOLD ET NOIR 14 W Jarvis 8-4	D O'Donoghoe (3) 2
16	-005	FEEL A LINE 11 (B) B Meehan 8-2	Paul Eddery 18
17	60-0	MYOSOTIS 18 (B) P Makin 8-2	– 9
18	00-0	WELCOME HEIGHTS 37 M Fetherston-Godley 8-0	C Rutter 17

9-2 Interdream, 5-1 My Beloved, 6-1 Princess Of Hearts, 7-1 Agent Mulder, 8-1 Broughtons Error, Daintree, 10-1 Kristopher, Chingachgook, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Wragg, 5 winners from 23 runners, 21.7%; R Hannon, 35 from 221, 15.8%; P Walwyn, 5 from 32, 15.6%; C Wall, 5 from 36, 13.9%; P Cole, 9 from 66, 13.6%; T Mills, 3 from 22, 13.6%.

JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery, 40 winners from 179 rides, 22.3%; L Dettori, 25 from 119, 21.0%; Martin Dwyer, 5 from 29, 17.2%; T Quinn, 19 from 149, 12.8%; D Holland, 7 from 60, 11.7%.

7.30 FRENCH HORN AT SONNING LIMITED STAKES (£5,033: 5f 217yd) (9) SKY

1	4410	SHARP PEARL 22 (B,F) J White 4-9-7	R Hughes 6
2	100-	RIVERS MAGIC 130J (S) J Bridger 4-9-4	D Harrison 1
3	0040	WARNING TIME 3 (D,F,G) B Meehan 4-9-4	G Hannon (7) 7
4	64-0	WILD RICE 47 (B,F,G) G Wragg 5-9-4	Paul Eddery 8
5	0-00	BABSY BABE 28 (D,F,G) J J Quinn 4-9-1	J Quinn 4
6	/60-	PARIS BABE 205 (D,F,G) D Morris 5-9-1	N Day 3
7	1-50	TRIPLE HAY 18 (D,BF,G) R Hannon 3-8-10	Pat Eddery 2
8	3-00	YORKIE GEORGE 20 (D,G,S) L Cumani 3-8-10	L Dettori 5
9	0-06	BLUES QUEEN 28 (D,F) M Channon 3-8-7	T Quinn 9

9-4 Triple Hay, 7-2 Yorkie George, 4-1 Wild Rice, 5-1 Blues Queen, 7-1 Sharp Pearl, 10-1 Warning Time, 20-1 Babsy Babe

8.00 EBF CHISWICK NOVICE STAKES SKY
(2-Y-O: £3,176: 5f 10yd) (14)

1	15	EASTERN LYRIC 20 (D,F) J Berry 8-13	G Carter 1
2	421	FAST TEMPO 16 (D,G) B Palling 8-13	T Sprake 13
3	0	BANDBOX 14 S Mellor 8-12	M Wigham 14
4		COURTNEY GYM M Channon 8-12	R Hughes 5
5	6	HUGGER-MUGGER 14 (B) J Arnold 8-12	C Rutter 3
6		ISLAMABAD G Lewis 8-12	Paul Eddery 4
7	60	SERGEANT IMP 24 P Mitchell 8-12	M Henry (3) 11
8		STREET SINGER Miss C Johnsey 8-12	N Adams 9
9		WANDERING WOLF R Hannon 8-12	L Dettori 10
10		ALRIGLIA P Makin 8-7	S Sanders 6
11		GOD KNOWS M Fetherston-Godley 8-7	D Holland 2
12	04	IVORY'S JOY 14 (B) K Ivory 8-7	C Scally 7
13		MISLEAD J S Moore 8-7	M Fenton 12
14	6	RAAZI 22 R Strange 8-7	A Eddery (7) 8

3-1 Fast Tempo, 4-1 Eastern Lyric, 9-2 Wandering Wolf, 6-1 Islamabad, 8-1 Courtney Gym, Alriglia, 12-1 Bandbox, God Knows, 14-1 others.

8.30 SLOANE STREET HANDICAP
(£2,850: 1m 3f 135yd) (20)

1	1005	AMADOUR 9 (D,G) P Mitchell 4-10-0	O Urbina 13
2	1665	STATE APPROVAL 32 (D,F,G) P Eccles 4-9-12	Pat Eddery 5
3	045-	ADMIRALS SECRET 318 (D,F,G) C Wall 8-9-11	G Duffield 14
4	0-50	SEVENTH EDITION 105 P Murphy 4-9-9	S Drowne 6
5	0214	ELLY FLEETFOOT 7 (V,CD,G) G L Moore 5-9-7	S Whitworth 18
6	004-	CREST WING 317 T McGovern 4-9-6	T Sprake 19
7	-006	COMPASS POINTER 9 (G) J Eustace 4-9-6	Martin Dwyer (3) 12
8	6000	LEATHERNECK 7 (V) P Mooney 4-9-4	W J O'Connor 20
9	000	VICTOR BLUM 23 C Horgan 4-9-2	Paul Eddery 10
10	3011	KALAMATA 14 (D,G) J Glover 5-9-2	N Day 17
11	3434	SAPPHIRE SON 12J (G) P Clarke 5-9-0	R Ffrench (5) 4
12	-340	SUITOR 16 S Dow 4-8-13	J F Egan 7
13	0-00	SADLER'S BLAZE 14 P Harris 3-8-13	A Clark 15
14	0402	ZATOPEK 14 J Cullinan 5-8-13	V Slattery 1
15	-000	TARTAN PARTY 14 P Cole 3-8-13	T Quinn 11
16	4-26	NOTHING DOING 136 (CD,G,S) W Musson 8-8-10	J Quinn 8
17	4060	BLUE AND ROYAL 19 V Soane 5-8-10	G Bardwell 2
18	00-3	DIZZY TILLY 21 T Naughton 3-8-10	D Holland 16
19	00-0	OSCAR ROSE 28 M Bolton 4-8-9	M Henry (3) 9
20	40-0	ROCK THE BARNEY 7 (D,F,G) M Usher 8-8-8	D R McCabe 3

9-7 Kalamata, 6-1 Elly Fleetfoot, 7-1 Sapphire Son, 8-1 State Approval, 10-1 Seventh Edition, Amadour, 12-1 Crest Wing, 14-1 others.

9.00 PALL MALL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,965: 1m 2f 7yd) (13)

1		ARCTIC OWL J Fanshawe 9-0	D Harrison 12
2	2-00	CONTENTMENT 45 J Hills 9-0	M Henry (3) 13
3		FORESTRY J Smyth-Osbourne 9-0	T Sprake 3
4	3	JUGGLER 19 Lord Huntingdon 9-0	L Dettori 11
5	6-30	MYSTIC RIDGE 16 D Elsworth 9-0	R Hughes 6
6	3	REWARD 9 P Cole 9-0	T Quinn 4
7		SHIRAZAN L Cumani 9-0	O Urbina 2
8	0-3	SIXTIES MELODY 114 R Boss 9-0	M Roberts 10
9	-224	TITTA RUFFO 17 B Meehan 9-0	Pat Eddery 8
10	0	CERTAIN SURPRISE 14 M Madgwick 8-9	R Perham 9
11		FOLEYS QUEST J S Moore 8-9	J F Egan 5
12	0	SILVERY 22 J Toller 8-9	S Sanders 1
13	06	SWEETCHILDOFMINE 21 H Akbary 8-9	G Hind 7

11-4 Reward, 4-1 Juggler, 5-1 Shirazan, 6-1 Titta Ruffo, 7-1 Mystic Ridge, 8-1 Arctic Owl, Contentment, 10-1 Sixties Melody, 12-1 others.

Millar a nugget from Scotland

By Mark Souster

ONCE in a while a promising young cricketer announces himself in a flurry of runs which prompt knowing nods of the head by schoolmasters. One such boy is Neil Millar, 16, a cornerstone of the Fettes College first XI in Edinburgh for the past two years.

Schools cricket, indeed cricket in general, is not strong in Scotland, but Millar hopes to change that. Last year, in an unbeaten season, during which Fettes beat an English school, Monckton Coombe, for the first time in many years, Millar averaged 86.7 in school matches. He scored 781 runs, including eight half-centuries (one of them against MCC), and an unbeaten century against Edinburgh Academy and was awarded his colours. After four matches this term, he is averaging 55.6.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Jamie Frost, the cricket master at Fettes who leaves at the end of term for a new job in Malaysia, described Millar, a right-hander who bats at No 3, as "one of the best prospects to come out of Scotland in ten years. He is a natural with a very good eye. He has all the shots and is strong off the back and front foot. He is also very good at concentrating."

Millar, the son of a Scottish father and English mother, grew up in London and learnt his cricket under the watchful eye of Richard Boddington, a master at Wellesley House preparatory school, Broadstairs, a school with rich sporting traditions.

As a talented all-rounder, Millar also plays for the rugby union first XV, at stand-off half, the hockey first XI and enjoys squash, fives and football. He is studying Latin, Greek and History at A-level and hopes to read Classics at Oxford University. If he maintains his progress, a cricket career is a distinct possibility, and he has been recommended to Surrey by Jim Love, the Scotland coach.

Millar, an admirer of Surrey cricketers Graham Thorpe and Adam Hollioake, is also a promising fast-medium bowler and has represented Scotland at under-16 and under-19 level.

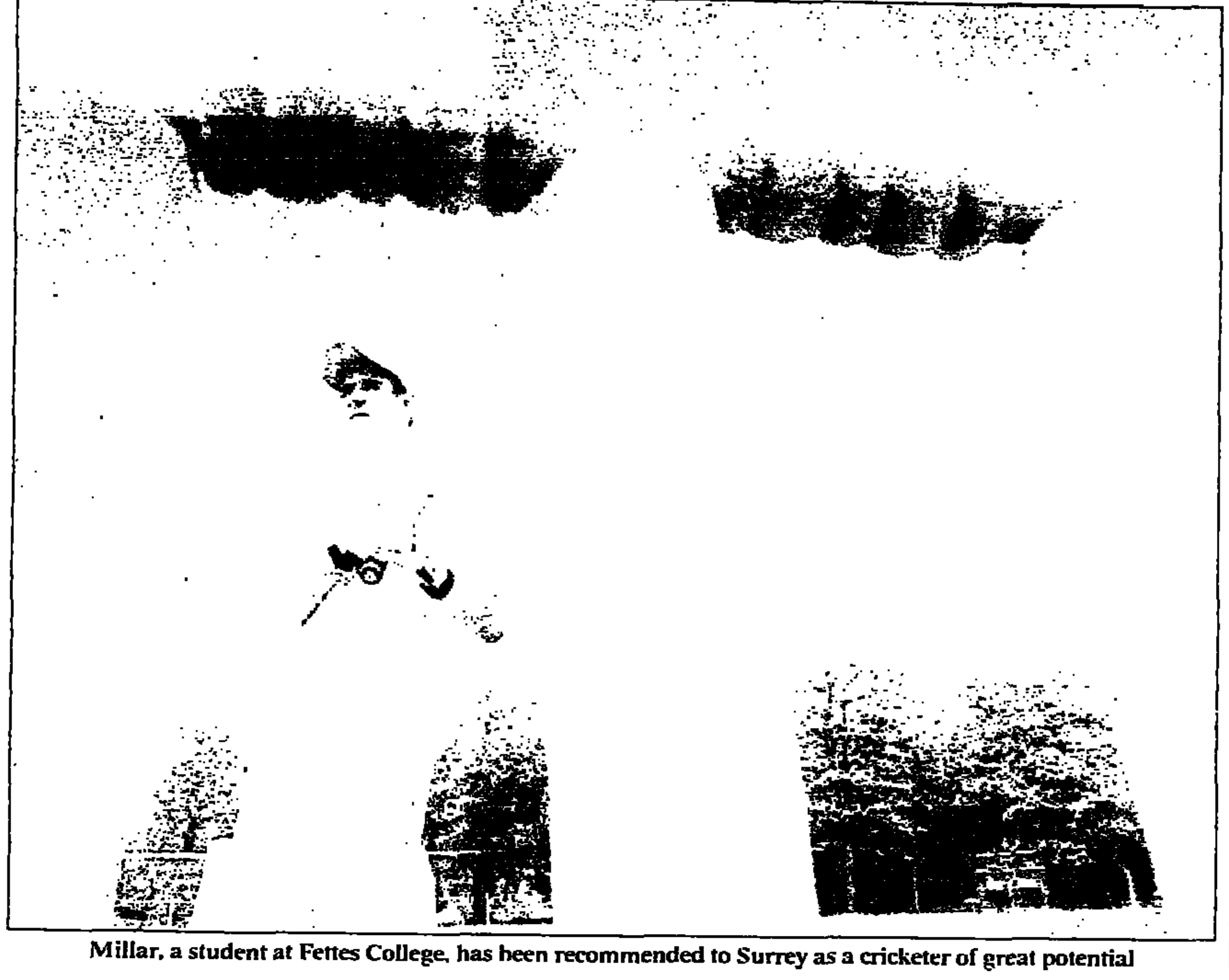
He said: "I had a sound grounding in technique and good coaches at prep school, although while I was there I was overshadowed by Alex Loudon, the current England Under-16 captain. It was an exceptional year, with boys who have gone on to captain Harrow, Tonbridge and Eton."

Millar displays innate maturity and leadership qualities. "In my year I am a strong character, but I try to avoid arrogance at all costs," he said. "Fettes is traditionally a rugby school with cricket one of the summer sports. That is starting to change. Cricket is more high-profile. We are a more positive team than we were two years ago and I would like to think I have contributed.

"I like to help others and a lot of players here lack confidence. They are great players in the nets, but get overawed out in the middle. There aren't many, what I call, proper cricketers, people who know the game.

"There are plenty of people who play it well, but don't know it — by that I mean fielding positions, shot selection, things like that. People don't know much about technique of the game.

"I don't want to sound arrogant, but everyone in my prep school knew as much as I do, but, in Edinburgh, people don't know much about what the game of cricket is about."


Millar, a student at Fettes College, has been recommended to Surrey as a cricketer of great potential

HOCKEY

Rampant Germany outclass England

By Sydney Friskin

THE England men's team suffered a crushing 5-1 defeat by Germany in Duisburg on Saturday, prompting Sean Kerly to describe the Germans as "probably the strongest side in the world today".

Kerly who, with Dick Clarke, was in charge of the team for the first time, added: "They spread the ball around intelligently and their finishing was superb. It was quite an exprience for Dick and I to be blooded into a side that had not played together and we learnt a lot from it."

Despite the absence of Donke, their injured centre forward, the Germans established a 4-0 lead in 47 minutes with successful strikes by Michel and Bechmann from short corners followed by goals from Streich and Kurtz, before Lee scored for England off the rebound from a short corner by Giles. Bechmann wrapped up the match with a brilliant solo run that ended in the fifth goal.

England had lost 5-1 to Germany at the Irish centenary tournament in Dublin in 1993 but had beaten them 3-2 at the same venue in 1995, when the Germans went on to retain the European championship.

With the return of Garcia, who was unavailable for this match, England expect to present a stronger front for the four-nations tournament to be played in Holland from June 12. The opposition will be provided by Holland, Pakistan and South Africa. Before that, England will play Holland at Gröningen on June 10.

GERMANY: C Reitz, J-P Tewes, P Crone, C Mayerhofer, M Eimer, C Eimer, B Michel, P Bellenhaum (captain), P Streich, C Kurtz, C Bechmann. Substitutes used: S Renelt, M Green

ENGLAND: D Luckes, J Wyatt (captain), J Wallis, A Humphrey, Soma Singh, B Sharpe, J Pidcock, W Waugh, R Crutchley, J Lee, P McGuire. Substitutes used: D Hall, S Ashdown, C Giles

Umpires: A Dochi and P Deneumostier (both Belgium)

☐ The Great Britain women's team lost 1-0 to Holland in their opening match in the Champions Trophy in Berlin. Ellen Kuipers scored from a breakaway move after 17 minutes. For Britain, Lucilla Wright found the net from a penalty corner but the effort was disallowed because it was too high. Korea provide the opposition for Britain in their second match today.

Decision day for Derby

THE BUSINESS OF SPORT

Back when the Derby was considered one of the great outings for East End factory workers, it was claimed that more than a quarter of a million people flocked to Epsom Downs each year. But the race went into decline, eclipsed in popularity by the Grand National, Ascot and the Cheltenham festival, and by the early part of this decade the crowd had fallen as low as 51,600.

United Racecourses (UR), the owners of Epsom, decided that something had to be done. So, two years ago, the momentous decision was made to move the Derby from its traditional race day of Wednesday to Saturday. Yet the traditionalists who bemoaned the move may yet win the day, because UR is coming under pressure to move the race back to its midweek spot.

UR's logic in moving from Wednesday seemed eminently sensible at the time. In the years before the Second World War, factories often gave their workers a day off for the Derby and, in some areas, this practice continued well into the 1970s. The television audiences, which help the bookmakers to generate a wave of betting excitement, cannot be delivered for a midweek race. And the Derby, which was usually being won by a horse with an Arab name, difficult to pronounce, was not generating the same sort of widespread excitement as the National.

The move coincided with the signing of a sponsorship deal with Vodafone, which is providing more than £2 million a year for the Derby meeting, which includes the Oaks and the Coronation Cup. But it has not really worked. UR did not promote the Derby well in its first Saturday year, and the attendance was just 54,266. Last year, the race coincided with Euro 96 and the crowd reached 56,253.

The target this year is at least 60,000, and UR knows that it is crucial to deliver because it is in danger of losing the Vodafone sponsorship. Also, the bookmakers are now pressing for a move back to Wednesday as they have seen a fall in betting turnover for the race.

The Vodafone deal was for three years and was partially prompted by the love for racing of the group's founder, Sir Ernest Harrison. But, earlier this year, Vodafone signed a £13 million agreement to sponsor the English cricket team for five years.

Vodafone, of course, is a big enough company to afford two large sponsorships. But it is wondering whether to renew the Derby deal because it is not sure it is getting good value. One of the deciding factors could be the size of Saturday's audience.

UR is feeling confident at the moment. Bookings for the open-top bus sites that line the course are up by 40 per cent and advance ticket sales, buoyed by a two-for-one offer from Vodaphone as well as a large amount of ancillary promotional work, are up 70 per cent. But, as the Derby is one of the few races you can watch for free — there is no entrance fee for pedestrians going onto the hill — many decide on the day whether to turn up.

he most critical factor this year could be the weather. If it stays as it has been recently, the outlook is bright. Poor weather will make it a rainy day in more ways than one for the Derby.

Jason Nissé

Holmes forced to show his mettle at Hoylake

By Mel Webb

THE youngsters playing in the second event of the Northern division of the Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour at Royal Liverpool had nothing for which to reproach themselves for scores that soared into the eighties. The conditions on the Wirral peninsula were dreadful — 35mph winds, lashing rain, cold — and the field deserved a good deal of praise for merely playing 18 holes.

Many of the less sturdy teenagers in the event had trouble standing up, let alone trying to propel a golf ball in the direction of greens that were lightning fast.

The event was won by James Holmes, a one-handicapper from Crewe Golf Club, who claimed his second victory on the Tour with an 82. Holmes, 18, said afterwards that he could not recall ever hitting the ball better, and it was easy to believe him.

Another fine performance from Simon Meneer, 15, who plays off seven at South Moor, earned him a joint runner's-up finish with Graeme Bowerbank, of Windermere, and Chris Trott, whose local knowledge — he plays at the host club — did not give him any great advantage in the conditions. They were all a shot behind.

The Tour, being run with sponsorship from Daihatsu, the Japanese car manufacturer, in association with *The Times*, continued with the second tournament in the Southern division at Foxhills, where the conditions could not have been more different than those that had prevailed at Hoylake. The weather was balmy with scarcely a trace of wind, and the scores reflected the improvement. The tournament was won by Duncan Hodgson, a five-handicap member of Effingham Golf Club, who shot a level-par 72 for his maiden Tour victory.

The highlight of his round was a holed second shot on the 352-yard dogleg 8th for an eagle two. He needed that stroke of good fortune, for he won by only one shot from Jason Levermore, an Essex county player from Clacton, who was apparently heading for victory until he dropped a shot on the last hole.

James Hunt, only 15 and a member of Hazelmere, was third on 74, one stroke ahead of a group of four that comprised Richard McEvoy (Thorpe Hall), Warren Wood (Rochester and Cobham), James Rodwell (Camberley Heath) and Kevin Smith (Barton-on-Sea), who made sure that the divisional order of merit remained a tightly bunched affair after two rounds.

The boys now take a short break from the Tour, many of them swapping golf for examinations, before the three tours get under way again. The next National Tour event is at Hillside on June 30, with the Northern Tour resuming at Slaley Hall on July 1, and the Southern Tour moving on to Hever with its daunting 644-yard 17th hole, on July 11.

The Tour is staging a short series of girls events this summer with a view to opening up a fully-fledged tour next season. The next competition for them will be at Chartham Park in West Sussex on August 12, and players who are interested in playing — they should have been under 18 on January 1 this year and have a handicap of 18 or less — should write for an entry form to PO Box 274, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 2YB.

NORTHERN TOUR (Royal Liverpool): 82: J Holmes (Crewe). 83: S Meneer (South Moor), G Bowerbank (Windermere), C Trott (Royal Liverpool). 84: M Traynor (Runcorn), M Connor (Filey). 85: [illegible]

SOUTHERN TOUR (Foxhills): 72: D Hodgson (Effingham). 73: J Levermore (Clacton). 74: J Hunt (Hazelmere). 75: R McEvoy (Thorpe Hall), W Wood (Rochester & Cobham), J Rodwell (Camberley), K Smith (Barton-on-Sea). 76: [illegible]

Deray Simon, 59, of the United States, collected his first title in eight years on the European Seniors Tour when he produced a closing 74 for a six-shot victory in the Philips PFA Golf Classic at St Pierre yesterday. Tommy Horton struggled in with 77 for second place on 218.

THE TIMES Mees Pierson CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE

TITLE SPONSOR

Mees Pierson

FORTHCOMING COMPANY GOLF DAYS

The companies listed have registered their golf day for the 1997 Challenge. The top four individual scorers on the day will form the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

Date	Company name	Venue	Players
30 MAY	BRITISH STEEL PLC (SHOTTON WORKS)	LLANDUDO (MAESDU)	28
30 MAY	IRISH ROAD MOTORS LTD	STRABANE	24
30 MAY	JACKSONS	TYTHERINGTON	32
30 MAY	MOORE CONSTRUCTION	SPRINGWATER	40
30 MAY	SITEL CORPORATION	STOCKLEY PARK	16
30 MAY	SUTCLIFFE CATERING (UK) LTD	WOBURN	50
30 MAY	THE CHILDREN'S WARD APPEAL - FRIMLEY PARK HOSPITAL	CAMBERLEY HEATH	100
30 MAY	TRADE INDEMNITY PLC	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	80
1 JUN	COMPUGRAPHICS INTERNATIONAL LTD	TAYMOUTH CASTLE	12
2 JUN	CALOR (NI) LTD	SHANDON PARK	60
2 JUN	NEVILLE RUSSELL	ST PIERRE	60
2 JUN	TAYWOOD HOMES LIMITED	FOXHILLS	100
3 JUN	BP CHEMICALS	BLAIRGOWRIE	80
3 JUN	COUNTRY SERVICES	ROYAL PORTHCAWL	30
3 JUN	IBH BERKSHIRE INDEPENDENT HOSPITAL	CALCOT PARK	24
3 JUN	K P M G	MANNINGS HEATH	40
3 JUN	KINGSTON - SCL	RATHO PARK	20
3 JUN	MAN TRUCK & BUS UK LTD	MERE G & CC	40
3 JUN	P A BUSINESS SYSTEMS LTD	GAINSBOROUGH	100
3 JUN	THE WASHINGTON HOSPITAL	BRONCEPETH CASTLE	24
4 JUN	BARCLAYS BANK PLC	KIRBY MUXLOE	48
4 JUN	BARCLAYS BANK PLC	THE HERTFORDSHIRE	32
4 JUN	BEACONS BUSINESS INTERIORS	CRADOC	30
4 JUN	CAPITAL ASSET FINANCE LIMITED	CHIDDINGFOLD	50
4 JUN	COPPING JOYCE	SOUTH HERTS	28
4 JUN	LANBASE PLC	SANDFORD SPRINGS	80
4 JUN	LAWRENCE GRAHAM	THE RAC COUNTRY CLUB	60
5 JUN	AOUMEN GROUP PLC	WETHERBY	24
5 JUN	CASTLE POOL HOTELS LTD	KINGTON	60
5 JUN	CATERING & ALLIED SERVICES	WOBURN	60
5 JUN	COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE	MILL GREEN	34
5 JUN	DURACELL BATTERIES LTD	MANNINGS HEATH	160
5 JUN	JOHN HORNBY SKEWES & CO LTD	GARFORTH	50
5 JUN	K P M G	RAMSIDE	60
5 JUN	K P M G	LISBURN	60
5 JUN	KEDDY SERVICES	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	50
5 JUN	MASSON & GLENNIE	FRASERBURGH	60
5 JUN	NOVARTIS	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	16
5 JUN	ROWE & COHEN SOLICITORS	DUNHAM FOREST	60
5 JUN	UAP PROVINCIAL INSURANCE PLC	CUDDINGTON	80
6 JUN	CATELLA UK LIMITED	LEATHERHEAD	40
6 JUN	COOPERS & LYBRAND	HADLEY WOOD	30
6 JUN	ESTDALE LIMITED	CALCOT PARK	35
6 JUN	HAMANN INTERNATIONAL (IRELAND) LIMITED	DRUIDS GLEN	60
6 JUN	HAZELWOOD VEHICLE MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	55
6 JUN	NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE	EAST HERTS	36
6 JUN	NATIONAL STARCH & CHEMICAL LTD ADHESIVES DIVISION	THE WARWICKSHIRE	110
6 JUN	NORTHERN BANK LIMITED	ROYAL BELFAST	60
6 JUN	OSBORNE MORRIS & MORGAN NEUROLAWYERS	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	40
6 JUN	SHAWMAC LIMITED	LISBURN	60
6 JUN	SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY	CRIEFF	35
6 JUN	SPP INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT	FOTA ISLAND	16

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3 ACCESS THE INTERNET SITE ON http://www.golftoday.co.uk/timescorpgolf/

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For Further information contact Colin Springate at The Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour office on 01425 674486

THIRSK

THUNDERER

6.15 Edna's Gift. 6.45 Benzoe. 7.15 Tessajoe. 7.45 Weetman's Weigh. 8.15 Barrier Ridge. 8.45 Spanish Verdict.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN BACK STRAIGHT) SIS

DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.15 PICKERING FILLIES SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,793: 6f) (9 runners) SKY

1	1546	MY BET 11 (G) M W Easterby 9-0	T Lucas 2
2		BARONESS NOBLE T Easterby 8-9	L Charnock 3
3	0	DISPOL LASS 21 P Calver 8-9	Darren Moffatt (3) 5
4		DUTCH PATRIARCH M W Easterby 8-9	G Parkin (5) 6
5		EDNA'S GIFT J Berry 8-9	K Darley 7
6		GAY DA CHEEN J Carr 8-9	P Bloomfield 1
7	2	HUXLEEN 7 W G M Turner 8-9	D Sweeney (5) 9
8	3	SANS RIVALE 5 B Meehan 8-9	J Fortune 4
9	4	STEP IN TO THE SUN 13 R Fahey 8-9	J Carroll 8

7-2 Huxleen, 9-2 My Bet, Edna's Gift, 11-2 Sans Rivale, 15-2 Step In To The Sun, 7-1 Baroness Noble, 10-1 Dutch Patriarch, 12-1 others

6.45 LEEMING BAR HANDICAP (£3,860: 5f) (15) SKY

1	5100	CHEMCAST 19 (D,F,G,S) J Eyre 4-9-11	S Buckley (7) 1
2	2010	MANOLO 30 (B,D,BF,F) J Berry 4-9-6	K Darley 11
3	000-	SWAN AT WHALLEY 226 (D,F,G) R Fahey 5-9-5	D Biggs 8
4	0033	BENZOE 16 (C,F,S) Mrs J Ramsden 7-9-4	J Fortune 7
5	0003	STOLEN KISS 11 (B,D,F,S) M W Easterby 5-9-3	T Lucas 4
6	0004	INSIDER TRADER 6 (D,F,G) Mrs J Ramsden 6-9-3	W Ryan 3
7	000-	OH WHATAKNIGHT 238 (D,G) R Whitaker 4-9-0	D McKeown 6
8	0000	MINDRACE 24 (D,F) K Ivory 4-8-12	J Carroll 9
9	500-	ALLWRIGHT THEN 217 (D,G) T Barron 6-8-8	Kimberley Hart (7) 15
10	4400	BOWCLIFFE GRANGE 81 (D,BF,F) D Chapman 5-8-7	P Fessey (3) 10
11	5564	KALAR 15 (B,CD,F,G) D Chapman 8-8-7	A Culhane 14
12	-066	DOMINELLE 4 (D,BF,F) T Easterby 5-8-7	Darren Moffatt (3) 2
13	20-0	L A TOUCH 23 (F) J J Quinn 4-8-8	N Connorton 13
14	4066	CAMIONNEUR 23 (B,F) T Easterby 4-7-13	L Charnock 12
15	2503	SOTONIAN 16 (D,G) P Felgate 4-7-12	D Wright 5

11-2 Benzoe, 7-1 Manolo, Stolen Kiss, 8-1 Kalar, Dominelle, 10-1 Chemcast, Insider Trader, 12-1 Allwright Then, Sotonian, 16-1 others

7.15 MARTON HANDICAP (£3,444: 1m 4f) (5) SKY

1	0-36	TESSAJOE 25 (CD,F,G) M Camacho 5-9-11	L Charnock 2
2	-311	DESERT FIGHTER 28 (CD,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-11	A Culhane 5
3	0044	CASHMERE LADY 10 (G) J Eyre 5-9-3	D Pears (3) 4
4	6-00	DAIRA 25 (D,G) J Bethell 4-8-11	P Fessey (3) 1
5	3104	AUGUSTAN 9 (D,F,G) S Gollings 6-8-7	J Fortune 3

Evens Desert Fighter, 3-1 Tessajoe, 4-1 Augustan, 13-2 Cashmere Lady, 16-1 Daira

7.45 BEDALE LIMITED STAKES (£3,470: 7f) (5) SKY

1	5411	WEETMAN'S WEIGH 6 (CD,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 4-9-11	D Griffiths (3) 1
2	00-1	ABSOLUTE LIBERTY 22 (G) S Woods 3-8-12	D Biggs 3
3	00-0	GRATE TIMES 25 (B,D,S) E Weymes 3-8-9	J Carroll 4
4	-300	STYLE DANCER 17 (F) R Whitaker 3-8-9	D McKeown 2
5	525-	SPANISH KNOT 230 Lord Huntingdon 3-8-6	K Darley 5

6-5 Weetman's Weigh, 11-4 Absolute Liberty, 4-1 Spanish Knot, 7-1 Style Dancer, 12-1 Grate Times

8.15 SPROXTON MAIDEN STAKES (£3,678: 1m) (7) SKY

1	55-	DANTESQUE 282 (BF) G Wragg 4-9-9	K Darley 4
2	0-0	GENERAL MONTY 4 T Barron 5-9-9	Victoria Appleby (7) 1
3	0	MOUNT GENIUS 37 Bob Jones 4-9-9	N Connorton 3
4	23	BARRIER RIDGE 15 (BF) H Cecil 3-8-12	W Ryan 5
5		BILLY NOMAITE Mrs S Smith 3-8-12	D Pears (3) 7
6	5	STORYTELLER 41 Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-12	J Fortune 2
7	55	LINEA-G 14 Mrs M Reveley 3-8-7	A Culhane 6

8-13 Barrier Ridge, 9-2 Dantesque, 7-1 Storyteller, 12-1 Mount Genius, 16-1 Linea-G, 20-1 General Monty, 25-1 Billy Nomaite

8.45 SALTERSGATE HANDICAP (£3,131: 1m) (16)

1	-335	GULLIVER 41 Mrs J Ramsden 4-10-0	J Fortune 6
2	-400	MUKHLLES 15 Bob Jones 4-9-13	N Connorton 14
3	-252	BROCTUNE GOLD 14 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-9	A Culhane 9
4	0004	TERDAD 10 T Barron 4-9-6	K Darley 12
5	-000	TINKLERS FOLLY 30 (D,F,G) R Whitaker 5-9-1	D McKeown 15
6	0105	PAINT IT BLACK 30 (CD,F,G) D Nicholls 4-9-0	Alex Greaves 11
7	5064	SPANISH VERDICT 6 (CD,F,G,S) D Smith 10-9-0	P Fessey (3) 10
8	34-5	SIR ARTHUR HOBBS 17 (CD,F,G,S) J Eyre 10-8-13	R Lappin 5
9	0000	BERNARD SEVEN 14 (F,G) (B,D) M Dods 5-8-12	W Ryan 16
10	3250	STEPHENSONS ROCKET 14 (C,F,G,S) R Fahey 6-8-7	F Norton 13
11	3-00	JACKSON FALLS 11 (B) T Easterby 3-8-7	J Carroll 4
12	00-0	WELCOME LU 10 (F) J L Harris 4-8-1	L Charnock 1
13	0000	PLEASURE TRICK 4 (D,F,G) E Incisa 6-7-10	Kim Tinkler 2
14	0008	ROSEATE LODGE 2 (D,F,G) S Kettlewell 11-7-10	Jenny Benson (7) 7
15	000-	MUSTARD 329 A Mulholland 4-7-10	D Wright 8
16	0000	SILENT SYSTEM 6 D Chapman 4-7-10	M Baird (3) 3

11-2 Broctune Gold, 7-1 Gulliver, Stephensons Rocket, 8-1 Paint It Black, Spanish Verdict, Jackson Falls, 10-1 Terdad, Bernard Seven, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 9 winners from 26 runners, 34.6%; M Camacho, 4 from 22, 18.2%; W G M Turner, 3 from 17, 17.6%; Mrs J Ramsden, 8 from 63, 12.7%; Mrs M Reveley, 7 from 56, 12.5%; J Berry, 14 from 121, 11.6%.

JOCKEYS: W Ryan, 11 winners from 40 rides, 27.5%; J Fortune, 16 from 128, 12.5%; D McKeown, 13 from 108, 12.0%; P Fessey, 3 from 25, 12.0%; D Pears, 4 from 36, 11.1%; A Culhane, 11 from 109, 10.1%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Hamilton Park: 4.00 Swoosh. Leicester: 2.45 Sharp Return. Thirsk: 7.45 Grate Times, 8.45 Jackson Falls. Windsor: 7.30 Wild Rice, 8.00 Ivory's Joy, 8.30 Leatherneck.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S SEVEN MEETINGS

Newmarket

Going: good to firm

2.10 (1m) 1, Family Man (D Harrison, 11-4 fav); 2, Orsay (5-1); 3, Alpine Hideaway (16-1). 11 ran. 3l, nk. J Fanshawe. Tote: £3.40; £1.40, £2.10, £4.10. DF: £12.50. Trio: £154.00. CSF: £13.73. Tricast: £162.50.

2.40 (6f) 1, Cape Verdi (J Reid, 8-13 fav); 2, Trans Island (12-1); 3, Way Out Yonder (25-1). 12 ran. NR: Tumbleweed Hero. 2l, 1l. P Chapple-Hyam. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £3.50, £4.90. DF: £8.40. Trio: £71.90. CSF: £10.09.

3.10 (5f) 1, Literary Society (S Sanders, 13-2); 2, Twice As Sharp (6-1); 3, Gone Savage (5-1). Bowden Rose 9-2 fav. 11 ran. 1l, ½l. J Toller. Tote: £7.70; £2.20, £2.40, £1.60. DF: £31.90. Trio: £40.30. CSF: £38.13. Tricast: £195.82.

3.40 (6f) 1, Blue Goblin (L Dettori, 11-10 fav); 2, Connemara (14-1); 3, Sharp Hat (7-1). 12 ran. 2½l, 1¼l. L Cumani. Tote: £2.20; £1.30, £3.70, £2.70. DF: £20.80. Trio: £51.90. CSF: £21.02. Tricast: £88.34.

4.15 (6f) 1, Nightbird (L Dettori, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Elegant Warning (2-1 jt-fav); 3, Wildwood Flower (8-1). 9 ran. 3½l, 3½l. Saeed bin Suroor. Tote: £2.80; £1.20, £1.40, £2.20. DF: £2.80. Trio: £15.70. CSF: £5.48.

4.45 (1m) 1, The Prince (A Clark, 4-7 fav); 2, Bombazine (7-1); 3, Easy Song (33-1). 8 ran. NR: Fife Major. 1¼l, 3l. G Wragg. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.50, £4.00. DF: £4.30. Trio: £40.90. CSF: £5.14.

5.20 (1m 6f) 1, Three Cheers (A Garth, 16-1); 2, Awesome Wells (9-2); 3, Sun Alert (9-1). Silver Wonder Evens fav. 7 ran. 7l, nk. J Gosden. Tote: £10.30; £3.20, £2.10. DF: £21.20. CSF: £78.91. 3min 01.10sec.

Jackpot: £703.60.

Placepot: £25.90.

Quadpot: £3.20.

Lingfield Park

Going: good to firm (firm in places)

1.45 (5f) 1, Contrary Mary (A Whelan, 2-1 fav); 2, Dim Ots (100-30); 3, Brandon Frank (9-1). 11 ran. 6l, 1l. G Lewis. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.40, £2.90. DF: £2.20. Trio: £19.00. CSF: £7.14.

2.15 (6f) 1, Kilcullen Lad (W J O'Connor, 4-1 fav); 2, Thwaab (11-2); 3, So Intrepid (10-1). 10 ran. Sh hd, 2½l. P Mooney. Tote: £4.60; £1.50, £1.80, £3.30. DF: £14.60. Trio: £75.20. CSF: £23.11. Tricast: £185.60.

2.45 (1m 2f) 1, Henley (D R McCabe, 15-2); 2, Regal Patrol (11-1); 3, Maradi (14-1). Prince Of Denial 4-1 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, 1½l. D Loder. Tote: £7.50; £2.50, £2.70, £3.50. DF: £54.90. Trio: £275.70. CSF: £80.01. Tricast: £1,036.28.

3.15 (6f) 1, Cyrano's Lad (K Fallon, 11-2); 2, My Best Valentine (33-1); 3, Russian Revival (7-2). Jayannpee 2-1 jt-fav. 7 ran. NR: Cayman Kai. Hd, 5l. C Dwyer. Tote: £5.80; £2.50, £6.00. DF: £85.10. CSF: £130.67.

3.50 (1m 3f 106yd) 1, Taufan's Melody (R Cochrane, 2-5 fav); 2, Nabhaan (9-4); 3, Prospector's Cove (20-1). 4 ran. NR: Captain Horatius. Nk, 15l. Lady Herries. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.20. CSF: £1.53.

4.25 (7f 140yd) 1, Nwaamis (R Hills, 10-11 fav); 2, Tumbleweed Ridge (11-4); 3, Russian Music (7-2). 5 ran. 3l, 2½l. J Dunlop. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £2.10. DF: £2.90. CSF: £3.57.

4.55 (7f) 1, Bollin Gate Boy (Mrs L Pearce, 7-1); 2, Marjeana (2-1 fav); 3, Apollo Red (7-2). 11 ran. NR: Forgot To Remindme. ¾l, nk. J Pearce. Tote: £9.50; £1.90, £1.40, £1.50. DF: £25.20. Trio: £19.80. CSF: £21.45. Tricast: £60.05.

Placepot: £183.70. Quadpot: £110.20.

Catterick Bridge

2.00 1, Pigeon (6-1); 2, Final Claim (7-1); 3, Hopefully (11-10 fav). 9 ran.

2.35 1, Woodbeck (11-8 fav); 2, Yabint El Sultan (2-1); 3, Mystique Air (5-1). 9 ran.

3.05 1, Rechullin (5-1); 2, Nant Y Gamer (10-1); 3, Magic Mill (10-1). Gulf Shaadi 5-2 fav. 10 ran.

3.35 1, Stackattack (11-4); 2, Jedi Knight (14-1); 3, Komlucky (12-1). Corniche Quest 5-2 fav. 11 ran.

4.10 1, Nigel's Lad (1-3 fav); 2, Cloud Inspector (8-1); 3, Marsayas (12-1). 6 ran.

4.40 1, Rum Lad (10-11 fav); 2, Ohnonotagain (33-1); 3, Rockaroundtheclock (11-2). 6 ran. NR: Little Papoose.

Kempton Park

6.25 1, Shaheen (1-3 fav); 2, Satin Stone (12-1); 3, Mr Sponge (33-1). 17 ran.

6.55 1, Vola Via (4-1); 2, Anak-Ku (100-30); 3, Piquant (8-1). Press On Nicky 2-1 fav. 10 ran. NR: North Reef, Superior Force.

7.25 1, Kaiser Kache (12-1); 2, Undercover Agent (15-8 fav); 3, Shalstayholy (7-1). 14 ran.

7.55 1, Almaty (7-2 jt-fav); 2, Compton Place (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Rambling Bear (5-1). 9 ran.

8.25 1, Maroulis (9-1); 2, Doyella (6-4 fav); 3, Kewa-Ib (7-1). 8 ran. NR: Alpina, Poleaxe.

8.56 1, Roisin Clover (4-1); 2, Heart Of Armor (11-2); 3, Prince Kinsky (12-1). Galapino 2-1 fav. 12 ran. NR: Juntavi.

Musselburgh

6.15 1, Maxana Don (12-1); 2, Newhargen (2-1); 3, Fairy Domino (5-4 fav). 6 ran.

7.15 1, Latvian (5-2 fav); 2, Indonesian (6-1); 3, Sun Of Spring (10-1). 10 ran. NR: Monaco Gold.

7.45 1, Shadow Jury (7-1); 2, Lady Sheriff (5-4 fav); 3, Sunset Harbour (14-1). 9 ran.

8.15 1, Power Game (4-1 jt-fav); 2, Banesbo (8-1); 3, Dictation (4-1 jt-fav). 14 ran.

8.45 1, Toronto (7-1); 2, Gold Edge (4-6 fav); 3, Superfrills (8-1). 9 ran.

9.15 1, Hasta La Vista (9-4 fav); 2, Charity Crusader (6-1); 3, Northern Motto (5-2). 9 ran.

Stratford

2.25 1, Bullens Bay (4-1); 2, Santella Cape (15-2); 3, Fachiogg (33-1). Eau De Cologne 4-5 fav. 11 ran. NR: Lord Ceol, Regal Gem, Rushaway.

2.55 1, Stately Home (8-1); 2, Formal Invitation (13-8 fav); 3, Seod Rioga (3-1). 8 ran. NR: Polden Pride.

3.25 1, Doualago (2-1 fav); 2, Holy Joe (14-1); 3, Deming Bridge (8-1). 11 ran.

3.55 1, Thank U Jim (16-1); 2, Final Pride (5-6 fav); 3, Wake Up Luv (33-1). 9 ran. NR: Celtic Daughter, Rain Crazy.

4.30 1, Celtic Abbey (13-8 fav); 2, Bitofamixup (9-4); 3, Mr Boston (8-1). 11 ran. NR: Nordic Wonder.

5.05 1, Diamond Fort (7-1); 2, Special Account (10-1); 3, Don't Light Up (20-1). Bally Clover 4-1 fav. 12 ran.

5.35 1, Cuillin Caper (8-1); 2, Happy Brave (16-1); 3, Tiutchev (4-1 jt-fav). Tunga Man 4-1 jt-fav. 15 ran. NR: Blade Of Fortune.

Market Rasen

6.35 1, Lucy Tufty (7-2); 2, Master Showman (20-1); 3, Havanata (3-1). Ajdar 9-4 fav. 8 ran. NR: Night Boat, Woodlands Energy.

7.05 1, Eid (4-7 fav); 2, Osgathorpe (11-4); 3, Quixall Crossett (10-1). 4 ran.

7.35 1, Tapatch (6-4 fav); 2, Thats The Life (9-4); 3, Dash To The Phone (10-1). 5 ran.

8.05 1, Jamaican Flight (9-4 fav); 2, Out On A Promise (3-1); 3, Nashville Star (14-1). 7 ran.

8.35 1, Cumberland Blues (11-8 fav); 2, Indie Rock (9-2); 3, Kambalda Rambler (9-2). 10 ran.

9.05 1, Rushen Raider (5-1); 2, Fresh Fruit Daily (8-11 fav); 3, Silverdale Lad (11-2). 8 ran. NR: Alpheton Prince.

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4,623.60	Allied Domecq†	445	- 6½	6.6	13.4
275.90	Bulmer (HP)	522½	- 5	3.2	15.5
33.50	Burn Stewart	56½	..	7.5	14.1
128.50	Glenmorangie A	845	+ 5	1.8	..
11,982.10	Grand Met	568	- 25	3.6	18.0
10,785.50	Guinness	569	- 24	3.5	16.2
442.90	Highland Distill	332	+ 1½	3.2	15.5
227.00	Matthew Clark	256½	- 6	11.7	12.2
7.85	Merydew W	72	- ½	8.0	9.7
5,085.90	SA Breweries	1728¼	- 16¾	2.3	

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
13,306.90	ABN-AMRO	4387½	- 68¼	2.6	18.2
12,387.40	Abbey Nat	880½	- 52	3.7	15.6
3,561.80	Alliance & Leic	612	- 26	3.3	15.0
3,139.20	Allied Irish	468½	...	3.8	..
6,236.00	Aus New Z	418¼	+ 28	4.5	..
28,417.10	Bank America	6968¾	- 131¼		
4,602.50	Bank Scotland†	384½	- 17½	2.7	11.7
18,018.70	Barclays	1167	- 51½	3.3	12.0
3,181.30	Bk of Ireland	661½	- 31½	3.4	
32,614.20	Citicorp	6737½	- 493¼		
7,020.10	Commerzbk	1737½	- 21½	2.5	
23,501.90	Dai Ichi Kan Y	740¼	+ 6¼	0.6	
17,308.50	Deutsche Bk	3440¾	- 134¾	1.9	..
405.30	Espirito Santo	1025	+ 12½	3.3	
23,062.30	Fuji Bank Y	796	- 10¾	0.6	
16,533.10	HSBC	1896	+ 52	2.7	18.4
32,795.50	HSBC HK	1824	+ 48½	2.8	15.9
506.50	Irish Perm	589	- 8	2.7	
32,947.20	Lloyds TSB	614	- 4	2.7	19.9
13,072.70	Nat Aust Bk	873¼	- 8¼	4.7	11.7
12,745.80	Nat West	744½	- 46½	4.9	11.2
4,920.00	Ryl Bk Scott†	600	- 12½	4.0	12.8
9,598.90	Stand Chartt	967¼	- 41½	1.9	17.3
16,061.10	Wells Fargo	£164¾		1.9	
5,909.60	Westpac	331¾	- 6	4.6	

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7,026.00	Bass	793	- 11½	4.1	14.7
16.30	Brit for the Bd A	49½	- 2	4.4	13.8
32.30	Burtonwd Brw	156½		4.5	14.0
248.40	City Centre Rest†	128	+ 2½	2.4	21.3
2,183.50	Compass Gp	680	+ 14	1.7	24.9
64.60	Eldridge P 'A'	304½	- ½	2.3	16.7
64.20	Fullr Sm A'	465	- 2½	2.5	16.5
1,390.80	Greenalls Grp	470½	- 11	4.3	11.5
391.10	Greene King	848½	+ 3	3.1	15.9
26.50	Grosvenor Inns	188½		4.1	18.0
46.80	Groupe Chez Ger	250½	- 7	1.4	24.8
54.70	Hardy Hanson	273½	- 2	4.8	12.4
81.90	Holt Jt	2825		2.8	16.6
51.70	Inn Business	67½		2.9	..
229.50	Mansfield	352½		2.2	16.2
245.30	Marston Thmp	271	- 3	3.5	10.1
169.60	Morland	525	- 5½	3.0	13.8
55.90	Old Eng Pubt	236½	- 14	1.1	

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,702.30	Electrocomponts	398½	- 1	2.2	24.2
80.10	Eurodis Elec	136½	- 3	4.5	19.5
45.50	European Mic	84½	.	7.8	8.6
70.60	Evans Halshaw	230	- 9	9.4	..
6.28	Fife Indmar	40½	- 1½	10.2	8.1
271.40	Finelist Grp	344		2.4	17.5
28.40	Gardiner	28¼	- 1½	4.5	10.0
18.40	Glenchewton	61	- 3	2.8	11.9
9.21	Gowrings	103½	- 1½	3.6	23.5
22.10	HR Owen	13½	- ½	6.1	12.2
26.70	Hamlett	89½	- 2½	8.5	8.3
26.90	Harris (Philip)	242½		4.5	14.8
188.70	Headlam	310		2.4	20.2
6.20	Holders Tech	155	+ 7½	5.2	14.2
95.10	ISA Intl†	232½		1.5	18.8
1,536.50	Inchcape†	280½	- 3½	4.5	17.9
7.28	Jacks (Wm)†	67½	+ 6¼	4.2	10.4
446.50	Kwik-Fit	253	- 2½	2.8	18.2
400.80	Lex Service	351½	- 11	5.7	11.6
34.70	Lookers	104	+ 2½	9.6	7.0
68.00	Middlesex	8¼		1.2	12.8
13.90	Midlsdest†	28½	- 1½	2.8	..
22.60	Motdain	215	+ 11	4.7	8.0
49.30	Normanbler	144½		1.2	8.6
235.30	Partco▼	325½	- 4	3.1	17.1
139.80	Pendragon	361½	- 1	3.4	16.7
48.00	Perry Gpt	187½	+ ½	6.0	8.9
1,279.20	Premier Farnell†	471	- 12½	3.2	17.4
33.80	Quicks Group†	145½	+ 1	6.0	9.9
31.50	REA†	346	..	1.4	42.6
3.96	Reece	2¼			28.2
14.80	Rowan	16½	- ½	11.4	5.7
4.80	Russ Gp	3¼	....	....	...
27.40	Ryland	98½	+ 1	5.2	17.3
35.10	SEP Indl	29	+ 1¼	6.8	13.2
13.30	Sallan	51½		3.8	..
185.40	Time Products	360½		4.2	
46.50	UMECO	300		2.0	21.5
87.10	United Cases Gp	73	- ½		15.8
172.30	Vardy (Reg)	304½	- 5	2.8	13.4
98.30	WF Elect	673	...	2.5	24.4
29.00	Wilshaw	31	- ½	3.4	9.2
97.50	Wyko	140½	- 1½	2.4	16.4
32.50	Young (H)	146½	+ 3	3.7	12.3

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
841.20	Antofagasta†	408	+ 8	1.6	.
223.00	Ascot Hldgst	275	+ 5	2.4	
17,437.40	Broken Hill	877½	- 30	2.7	20.5
7,899.60	BTR†	198½	- 18½	6.8	8.6
18,999.90	BAT†	547½	- 21½	5.9	11.7
207.70	Bibby (J)	190½	+ 2	3.6	10.2
1,503.40	Brierley Inv	58¼		6.4	9.2
795.50	Charter	823½	+ 3½	4.5	11.6
1,616.90	Cookson†	285½	- 3½	4.6	14.8
28.60	Cosalt	218½	..	6.1	9.2
289.00	DCC†	351½	+ 1	2.8	..
151.40	Grampian Hldg	135½	- 4	5.8	..
867.10	Harrison Crsfld†	121¼	+ 19½	9.3	11.5
18,343.20	Hutch Whamp	507	+ 3	2.0	21.1
2,005.60	Imperial Tobacco	385	- 17½	8.6	7.6
2,993.30	Jardine Math†	416½	- ½	3.7	.
1,068.30	Lonrho	135½	- 9	4.4	12.3

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
70.10	Simon Eng	44½	+ ½	...	...
70.40	Six Hundred	127½	- 6½	4.7	2.5
2,362.20	Smiths Indst	774½	+ 8	2.7	18.8
555.60	Spirax-Sarco	701½	- 1	2.8	18.5
79.90	Sterling Ind	253	- 2½	4.4	12.7
2,728.40	TI†	572	+ 16	3.2	19.0
16.90	Tinsley (E)	103½	+ 1	7.1	10.7
169.20	TransTec	101½	- 1	2.9	14.2
107.90	Triplex Lloyd	164	- 3½	5.3	9.3

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
228.40	Edin Dragon	84½	+ 2¼	...	...
24.90	Edinburgh Inca	30¼	+ ½	...	...
1,121.70	Edinburgh IT	384¼	- 4½	3.6	...
44.30	Edin Japan	128¼	- ¼		
846.50	Electra Inv	489	+ 5	2.1	45.8
92.30	English Nat	222½	- 6½	0.2	...
249.80	Eng & Scot	152½	+ ¼	2.5	39.7
98.40	European Asset	384½	- ½	1.3	...
109.60	Fidelity Asian Val	105¾	+ 3¼	...	

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
12.90	Murray S/C Cap	228½	- ½	...	...
5.00	Murray S/C Inct	62½	...	23.4	5.1
1.94	Murray S/C Unit	3750		3.8	...
256.90	Murray Small	458	+ 4	1.4	67.7
97.80	Murray Vent	385	...	4.7	22.1
1.99	Newmarket	5½	...	...	...
161.28	O'seas Inv Tst†	423	+ 2	1.1	...
4.03	O'seas Wts	224½	+ 3		
131.80	Pacific Assets	101½	+ 1½	0.5	...

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
604.70	Flextech	538	- 47½	..	...
158.80	GGT Group	227½	- 5	3.3	15.9
194.30	GWR Gp	178½	- 6½	1.8	30.6
54.40	Gearhouse Group	353½	- 1	2.2	17.6
11.50	Goodhead	28½	- 3	1.1	17.4
86.60	Grampian†	252½	- 5	3.5	...
271.30	HTV Group†	308½	+ 1½	1.7	98.9
14.70	Haynes Pub	222½	+ 15	6.1	10.2
11.00	Highbury Hse	12¼	- ½	..	...

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
117.90	INVESCO Eng Intt	188	...	0.8	..
15.90	INVESCO Jap Dis	57	+ ½	...	...
26.10	INVESCO Korea	78¼	+ ½	..	.
48.80	INVESCO Tokyo	43½	+ ¼		
38.40	J Fry 2nd Utt	87	- 1	10.2	12.3
10.50	J Fry Euro U	99	+ 1	5.6	15.9
98.90	JF Fledg Jap	157	+ 2½	..	
38.50	Jupiter Ex Inct	103½	+ 4	9.5	10.2
0.60	Jupiter Ex IncWt	10			
12.00	Jupiter Grd Cap	86	+ 4½	11.3	10.6
12.90	Jupiter Grd Pfd	37			
33.30	Jupiter Intl Grn	132½	+ 2	3.7	
290.80	Klnwt Chrt	369	+ 2½	2.6	53.9
30.70	Klnwt E Mkr	108½	+ 1¼	...	...
48.90	Klnwt Eng	183	+ ½	..	...
30.60	Klnwt H Inc	102½	+ 7	12.7	10.6
253.00	Klnwt O'seas	315½	+ 2½	1.6	60.5
23.60	Klnwt Smlr	180½	- 1½	2.5	49.2
112.80	Korea—Euro	321	+ 26½	0.4	..
17.40	Latin American	141½	+ 2¼		
238.10	Law Debenture	1017½		3.1	30.6
34.70	Life Off Opp	106½	+ ½		
31.80	Lloyds Sm Cap	129½			
5.27	Lloyds Sm Div	21½		23.9	5.3
37.00	Lloyds Sm Pkg	151		3.4	
54.90	Lon St Lawrence	167½	+ 1	4.7	26.9
73.10	Lowland†	308½	- 2	4.6	24.0
70.20	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	702½	- 5		

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
399.50	Mercury World	93¾	+ ¼	1.5	78.6
5.11	Mercury Wld Wts	6	- ¼	...	...
521.90	Monks Inv Tst	672½	- ½	1.8	
62.20	Morg Gren Inct	168	- ¼	4.6	26.7
3.92	Morg Wts	68½	- ½		
58.10	Morg Latn Amer	90½	+ ¼	0.5	..
4.56	Morg Wts	35¼	+ ½		
29.90	Murray Emt	123½	- 1	3.0	36.0
0.84	Murray Em Wts	17½	- ½	...	...
45.30	Murray Emg Eco	83¾	+ 1	0.6	
2.44	Murray Em Ec Wt	18¼	+ ¼	...	...
29.10	Murray Euro†	80¼	+ 1	0.7	
346.50	Murray Income	401½	+ 3½	4.3	29.7
539.10	Murray Intl	446½	- ½	3.7	31.1
12.70	Murray S/C DP	198¼	.	.	.

LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
104.50	Hazelock	439	- 1	3.2	17.0
263.10	Jarvis Hotels	149½	- 5½	0.8	.
141.10	Jurys Hotel	332¼	- ¼	2.6	17.8
55.30	Kunick	23¾	...	4.0	14.4
2,702.50	Ladbroke†	230	- 16½	3.4	25.3
567.80	London Clubs	401	- 5½	2.6	24.7
99.00	Macdonald Htls	169	- 3½	3.0	18.4
401.70	Man Utd	619	..	1.1	28.3
485.20	Mandarin Ornt†	68	- 2¼	5.6	..
566.10	Millennium & Cop	391½	- 1	1.5	16.5
183.30	Newcastle Utd	114	- 2½	1.8	.
147.70	Northern†	271	- 2½	2.4	24.1
14.70	Prism Leisure	172½	...	4.4	9.3
31.60	Queensborough†	31	- 1½	1.2	12.1
57.00	Queens Moat	14¾	- ¼		9.8
3,590.70	Rank Grp	429	- 10½	5.0	34.1
29.80	Ryan Hotels (£)	45½	- 1	5.2	. .
454.00	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1587½	+ 5	1.4	.
23.00	Sheffield United	46	- 19	.	
57.30	Sinclair (Wm)	253½	+ 7	4.0	14.5
24.20	Southampton	89	- 12½	1.4	
759.10	Stakis	89½	+ 2½	2.9	15.7
337.10	Stanley Leisure	306½	+ ½	1.4	30.5
7.29	Tandem	7¼	+ ¼	...	
1,300.10	Tanjong	346		1.4	22.9
1,018.20	Thistle Hotels	165	- 3	2.8	16.1
106.60	Tottenhm Hot	106	+ ½	0.9	18.2
23.00	Toy Options	109½	+ 9	4.0	8.9

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OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,421.30	Jardine Strat▼	220	+ 2	3.9	..
19.90	Johnson Fry†	132	...	3.8	8.3
26.80	Leopold J	505	+ 15	4.8	29.9
1,388.80	Liberty Intl	489	- 7½	4.1	30.3
414.30	Lon Forfaitng	401½	- 16½	3.9	14.6
140.50	London Pacific	200	...	8.9	5.9
118.30	Lon Scot Bk	96		3.8	16.8
451.00	Man ED & F	173	+ 1½	7.4	9.3
956.00	M & G	1282½	- 67½	3.6	20.8
2,631.50	MAM	1438	+ 58	4.0	23.3
143.60	Paragon	183½	- 5½	1.9	7.2
764.20	Perpetual†	2710	- 2½	3.1	19.3
1,559.30	Provident	585½	- 6	3.5	20.0
92.30	Rathbone Brs	326	- 1	4.4	13.1
22.10	Rea Brothers	45	...	2.8	18.0

MEDIA

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9,890.00	BSkyB	575	- 10	1.2	36.5
66.90	CIA Gp▼	160½		1.8	34.7
419.50	Capital Radio†	570	- ¼	2.8	18.8
3,176.20	Carlton Comm	525	+ 5	2.8	15.5
160.70	Chrysalis	597½	+ 2½	0.8	
7.60	City of Lon	85	+ 9½	7.7	
548.10	Cordiant†	123½	+ 3½	1.0	
86.50	Daily Mail	1731¼	..	1.4	28.4
1,568.40	Daily Mail 'A'	1568¾	+ 6¼	1.5	25.8
199.70	Dorling Kind	284½	- 1	2.0	24.0
1,643.50	EMAP	787½	+ 27½	1.9	27.2
5,109.10	EMI	1174½	- 46½	3.3	46.4
6,867.70	Elsevier	1045	- 13¾	2.3	
332.70	Euromoney Pb	1535	.	4.1	18.8
16.60	Fitch	48¾	.	1.1	12.9

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
1,988	Treas 7% 1997	100⅝	- ⅛	6.98	6.31
5,559	Treas 8¾% 1997	100⁷⁄₁₆	- ⅛	8.70	6.39
830	Exch 15% 1997	103⅜	- ⅛	14.51	6.34
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	102	- ⅛	9.56	6.50
8,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	100⅜	- ⅛	7.22	6.64
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	106⅞	- ⅛	13.12	6.69
935	Treas 15½% 1998	110⅛	- ⅛	13.89	6.79
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	107⅛	- ⅛	11.21	6.80
1,300	Treas 9½% 1999	104	- ⅛	9.13	6.84
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	108⅞	- ⅛	11.24	6.91
1,352	Treas 10½% 1999	106½	- ⅛	9.86	6.83
6,950	Treas 6% 1999	98⅝	- ⅛	6.10	6.89
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	107⅛	- ⅛	9.55	6.86
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	104⅛	- ⅛	8.58	6.99
9,800	Treas 8% 2000	103⅛ †		7.78	7.01
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	116⅛	- ⅛	11.17	7.07
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	109⅛	- ⅛	9.14	7.10
12,750	Treas 7% 2001	99⅞	- ⅛	7.02	7.07

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	111⅛		8.77	7.16
8,600	Treas 8% 2003	104⅛ †	+ ⅛	7.68	7.12
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	114	+ ⅛	8.77	7.17
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	114⅛	- ⅛	10.06	7.12
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	85⅛	+ ⅛	4.07	5.93
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	113⅛		8.40	7.17
8,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	97⅛	+ ⅛	6.91	7.13
10,373	Treas 8½% 2005	109⅛ †	+ ⅛	7.86	7.19
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	113⅛		8.36	7.20
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	127⅛	+ ⅛	9.84	7.19
11,700	Treas 7½% 2006	101⅛ †		7.36	7.20
4,000	Treas 7¾% 2006	103⅛	- ⅛	7.50	7.23
2,050	Treas 8% 2002-06	102⅛	- ⅛	7.79	7.30
3,158	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120⅛	..	9.73	7.28
7,397	Treas 8½% 2007	108⅛	+ ⅛	7.80	7.29
5,000	Treas 7¼% 2007	100⅛ †	+ ⅛	7.22	7.19
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	113⅛	+ ⅛	7.94	7.24
3,450	Treas 8% 2009	105⅛	- ⅛	7.57	7.27

LONGS (over 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	91⅛	+ ⅛	6.86	7.29
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	114⅛	+ ⅛	7.83	7.28
5,380	Treas 9% 2012	115⅛	+ ⅛	7.80	7.30
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	85⅛	- ⅛	6.44	7.04
6,100	Treas 8% 2013	106⅛	+ ⅛	7.50	7.29
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	103⅛	+ ⅛	7.48	7.32
13,787	Treas 8% 2015	107⅛ †	+ ⅛	7.45	7.26
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	115⅛	+ ⅛	7.60	7.30
11,500	Tr 8% 2021	108⅛ †	+ ⅛	7.38	7.25

UNDATED

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
1,909	War Ln 3½%	47⅛ †	- ⅛	7.39	
475	Treas 2½%	33⅛	- ⅛	7.57	
359	Consols 4%	52⅛	+ ⅛	7.55	

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	10%	5%
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	114⅛	- ⅛		2.07
2,150	Treas IL 2½% 2001	185⅛	- ⅛	2.91	3.55
2,380	Treas IL 2½% 2003	181⅛	- ⅛	3.14	3.60
1,150	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	117⅛	- ⅛	3.19	3.59
2,350	Treas IL 2% 2006	191⅛	- ⅛	3.31	3.62
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2009	171⅛	- ⅛	3.39	3.64
2,850	Treas IL 2½% 2011	177⅛	- ⅛	3.43	3.65
3,400	Treas IL 2½% 2013	146⅛	- ⅛	3.48	3.67
3,400	Treas IL 2½% 2016	156⅛	- ⅛	3.50	3.68
3,350	Treas IL 2½% 2020	149⅛	- ⅛	3.57	3.72
3,400	Treas IL 2½% 2024	123½	- ⅛	3.58	3.72
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	121¼	- ⅛	3.57	3.71

WATER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3,707.30	Utd Utilities	698½	+ 2½	6.9	13.3
846.50	Wessex	403½	+ 9½	4.0	8.0
1,400.20	Yorkshire	375½	- 3½	6.6	7.7

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1.33	Abacus Recruit	102½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
5.51	Cafe Inns	190	+ 2	[illegible]	[illegible]
45.00	Country Gdnst	220½	+ 3½	[illegible]	[illegible]
131.80	Dawson Hdgs	232½	- 5	[illegible]	22.2
201.50	Freepages	41½	+ [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
54.10	Megalomedia	92½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
28.60	Memory Corp	45	+ 4½	[illegible]	[illegible]
74.30	Prism Rail	235	- 12	[illegible]	[illegible]
283.40	Ramco Egy	1077½	+ 25	[illegible]	[illegible]
177.90	Southern News	735	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
14.40	Southern Vectis	72½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
57.70	Surrey Fr Inns	497½	- 2½	[illegible]	[illegible]
173.90	Trocadero†	35	- ?	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index

[illegible]

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Methven's, Murray Emerging Economies Trust, SDX Business Systems. **Finals:** Filofax Group, Lanica Trust, Northumbrian Fine Foods, 600 Group, South Staffordshire Water, Wyndeham Press. **Economic statistics:** UK provisional M0 money supply (May), UK net new consumer credit (April), UK final M4 money supply (April), UK Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply purchasing managers survey (May), French unemployment (April), US personal income and spending (April), US construction spending (April), US National Association of Purchasing Managers index for May.

TOMORROW

Interims: Apollo Metals, Crabtree, Hawtin, MEPC, Toy Options. **Finals:** Belhaven Brewery, Dairy Crest, De La Rue, Incepta Group, National Grid, Racal Electronics, Vodafone Group. **Economic statistics:** UK official reserves (May), BTM/Schroder weekly chain store data, US leading economic indicators for April, API weekly oil supply statistics.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Blick, Heals, NFC, Warner Estate Holdings. **Finals:** Allied Colloids, British Energy, Caffyns, Dunedin Enterprise, Greencore Group, Powerscreen International, Readicut International, Shanks & McEwan, Southern Electric. **Economic statistics:** UK Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply services sector index (May), US factory orders (April).

THURSDAY

Interims: Bradstock Group, Inspec Group. **Finals:** Airsprung Furniture, Boots, Hambro Insurance, Pilkington, Powell Duffryn, Railtrack, 3i Group.
Economic statistics: UK new construction orders (April), UK CBI distributive trades survey (May), French provisional GDP (Q1), US weekly jobless claims.

FRIDAY

Interims: none scheduled. **Finals:** Park Food Group. **Economic statistics:** UK construction output (Q1).

COMPANIES

MICHAEL CLARK

Railtrack on line for maiden 22p

RAILTRACK: Maiden full-year figures on Thursday will no doubt provide further food for thought to John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, one of whose chores is to keep a beady eye on the transport industry.

NatWest Securities, the broker, is forecasting a 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits from £261 million to £305 million, while earnings are expected to grow by 15 per cent, from 44.4p to 51p.

Overall, the figures are expected to reflect a combination of improvements in operating performance, profitability and higher levels of investment. Better management will have seen internal costs and maintenance charges drop by up to 3 per cent per annum.

Shareholders should be rewarded with a 7 per cent increase in the dividend to 22p.

NATIONAL GRID: Brokers will pay close attention to full-year results tomorrow, which mark the last set of figures before the tougher new regulatory regime on pricing.

An 8 per cent increase in the dividend to 11.13p was forecast at the time of the group's flotation in 1995. The drop in pre-tax profits from £616.5 million to £591.6 million will also be largely factored in and reflects the new financial structure that will include the injected debt of the regional electricity companies and the loss of the pumped storage generation business.

The focus of attention now switches to the level of provisions required to make the group more efficient under the new regime. Brokers will also be looking for reduced losses from Energis, which topped £72.8 million in 1995-96.

BOOTS: The shares have been buoyed ahead of Thursday's full-year figures by reports that the group is contemplating a fresh share buyback operation.

Richard Ratner at MeesPierson says such a move is possible, but points out that after the last buyback, which saw the group spend more than £500 million, the price fell sharply and has taken a long time to make up the lost ground. Even so, he is looking for a solid performance from the retailer this time round and is forecasting pre-tax profits of £535 million against £493 million in 1995. Earnings per share are also expected to grow from 34.4p to 39.2p. The figures will be marked by solid performances from retail and health care, while Halfords will have proved disappointing.

The payout should grow from 18.5p to 20.1p.

BRITISH ENERGY: These will be the first full results since the company was floated last year and comparisons are difficult. But with output up by around 10 per cent, brokers are looking for maiden pre-tax profits on Wednesday of £60 million. That compares with the equivalent of a £155 million deficit the previous year. Earnings a share of 5.1p are forecast, compared with a loss of 22.1p previously. A dividend of 13.7p has been forecast.

RACAL ELECTRONICS: After a series of profit warnings brokers are braced for a profits downturn when the group reports full-year figures tomorrow. At the pre-tax level NatWest is forecasting £55.5 million, a reduction of 15 per cent on the £65.5 million in the previous year, although Henderson Crosthwaite is looking for £60 million. Earnings will also be down from 14.8p to around 12.5p.

The setback is due to heavy losses at Racal's data products division and a loss-making second-half performance from Radio Communications. The payout should be pegged at 6p.

VODAFONE: By contrast, the other half of the demerged group is expected to post a solid performance when it unveils full-year figures tomorrow. These should show pre-tax profits up from £467.9 million to £495 million, with earnings a share 7 per cent ahead at 10.7p.

The bulk of the improvement will be attributed to overseas growth, where revenues will be 45 per cent higher, and last year's operating loss of £27 million will be replaced by a profit of £15 million.

Shareholders should be amply rewarded with a 20 per cent rise in the dividend to 4.8p.

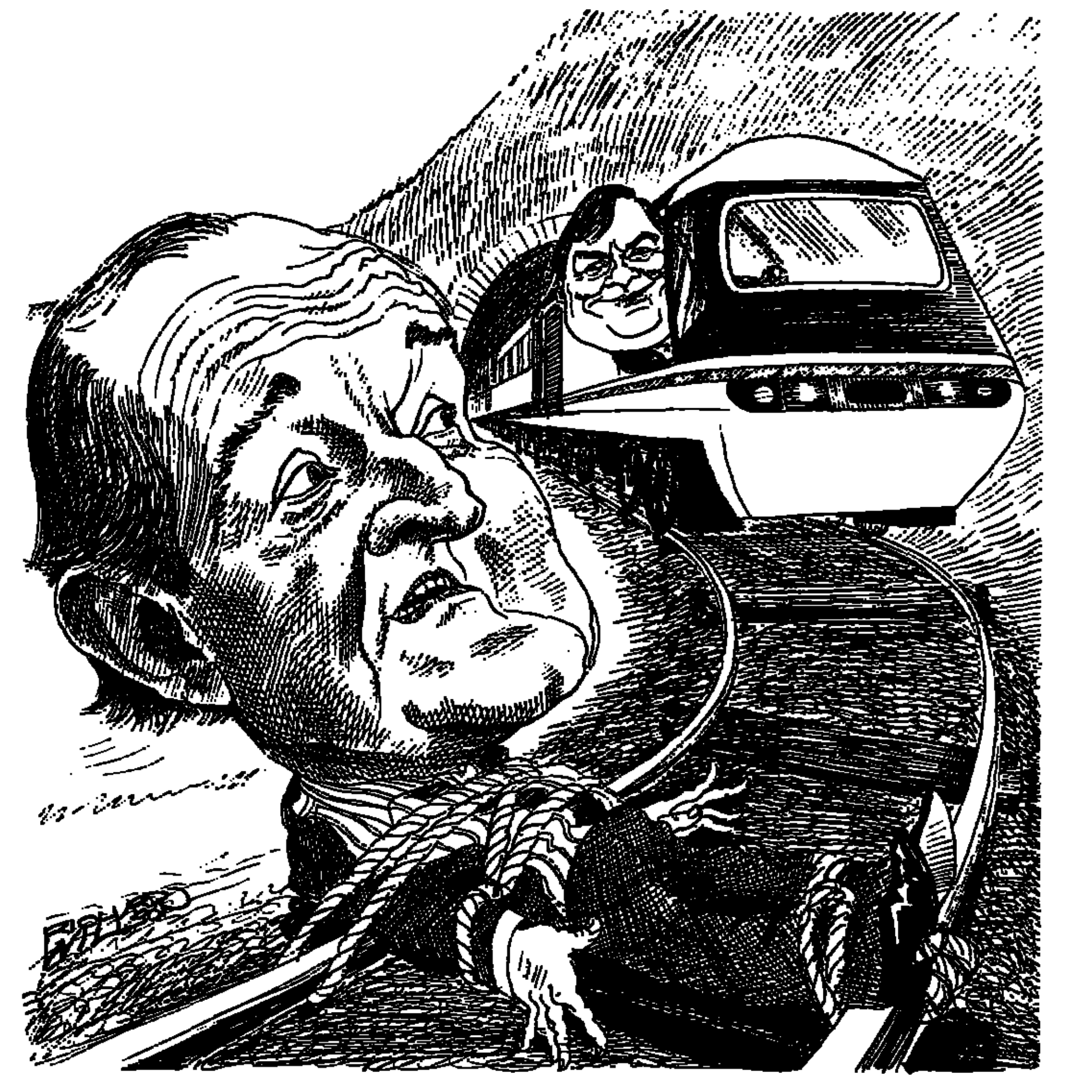
PILKINGTON: Full-year figures on Thursday come hard on the heels of last month's boardroom shake-up that saw the departure of Roger Leverton as chief executive. The results themselves are unlikely to contain much in the way of surprises, with brokers already forecasting a drop in pre-tax profits from £212 million to £130 million.

The deterioration in earnings will be even greater, down by 63 per cent from 13.9p to 5.1p. Demand in Europe should have remained steady, with the real problem stemming from pricing in the first quarter of 1997. It is hoped the dividend will be maintained at 5p.

SOUTHERN ELECTRIC: As one of the few remaining independent regional electricity companies, these full-year figures on Wednesday are expected to be overshadowed by the forthcoming Budget and the prospect of a windfall tax.

Southern is reputed to be one of the most efficient companies in the electricity industry, although brokers maintain there is still scope for improvement. The second review has led to a sharp fall in distribution profits, although costs will also be down.

Profits at the pre-tax level are likely to have receded by around £33 million, or 12 per cent, to £260 million, with earnings a share 10 per cent lower at 42.6p. Despite this the balance sheet remains strong and there should be scope for a 3 per cent rise in the payout to 21.5p.



Figures presented by Sir Robert Horton, chairman of Railtrack, will interest John Prescott

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

First test for Brown vision

Gordon Brown's brave new world faces its first big test this week when the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee assembles on Thursday. There is still a great deal of uncertainty about how the new MPC will function, especially as the outside members have not been named. Most economists think the committee will hold back from raising rates until after the Budget, but the Bank might be tempted to demonstrate its independence by forcing through another quarter-point rate rise on Friday.

There is little other economic data in the UK this week, with only the monetary statistics today for the market to digest. MMS International, the economic forecasting company, predicts that M0 will have grown by 6.6 per cent in May, up from 6 per cent in April. Consumer credit is forecast to show growth of £1.1 billion, compared with £780 million in April.

In the US elation at the Federal Reserve Board decision to pass on a rate rise two weeks ago is wearing off and the market is becoming nervous ahead of the next meeting in a month. The crucial employment data for May is published on Friday and is expected to show the economy rebounding from a weak April. Non-farm payrolls are forecast to show strong growth of 210,000 compared with 142,000 in April, while hourly earnings are predicted to rise by 0.4 per cent, compared with April's 0.1 per cent fall.

In Germany the main focus will be on the row between the Government and Bundesbank over gold revaluation with Hans Tietmeyer, the bank's president, due to address the parliamentary committee exploring the subject on Thursday. Manufacturing data on Wednesday should show the real economy is beginning to improve. April manufacturing output figures are expected to show a rise of 0.4 per cent compared with 0.2 per cent in March. But unemployment is expected to tick higher after last month's fall.

Alasdair Murray

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** European Telecom, Dixons, ML Labs., Tamaris, Beaufort, Meggitt, Cussins Property. *Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** Halifax, Claremont Garments. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** Medeva, Baldwin, Park Food, City Centre Restaurants, McLeod Russel. *The Observer*: **Buy** Zeneca; **Sell** Redland. *The Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Plasmon, Merchant Retail Group; **Sell** Corporate Services Gp.

Coopers racecard looks at Chancellor's options

Budget web site calls the odds

By Nathan Yates

COOPERS & LYBRAND, the accountancy firm, has started the race to predict the contents of the Chancellor's mini-Budget with a web site calling the odds on possible tax changes.

The budget racecard, which opens on the Internet today, offers poor odds on a wide range of tax reforms, and if correct the losing punters could include homeowners, shareholders and savers.

The card puts Labour's manifesto pledges such as the windfall tax and the abolition of relief on private medical insurance for the over-60s as racing certainties. These, with with the cut in VAT on fuel to 5 per cent and the introduction of the welfare to work programme, are odds-on favourites at 1 to 5.

The racecard also backs the abolition or phasing-out of mortgage interest relief (Miras), and the restriction of relief on capital gains tax and inheritance tax. A cut in Advance Corporation Tax, which would hit non-taxpayers such as pension funds, is an equally strong runner. All of these measures could have a heavy impact on some individuals, and all are placed at odds of 2 to 1.

The reform of Tessas and Peps into an Individual Savings Account is a 3 to 1 bet, as are higher petrol excise duties. Worth a flutter at 4 to 1 is a 10 per cent starting rate of income tax, the restriction of pension tax relief to the basic rate and the widening of employee benefits in kind that are liable to employers' National Insurance Contributions.

A two-tier capital gains tax, which would hit short-term gains, an alteration in income tax thresholds and increases in corporation tax, are quoted at 5 to 1.

In terms of personal tax, the outsiders are the removal of tax breaks on Venture Capital Trusts and the abolition of the married couples' allowance, though even these are only at 8 to 1 and 10 to 1 respectively. For businesses, 20 to 1 can be obtained on the introduction of a "green" tax, and 50 to 1 on a rise in insurance premium tax.

If the Coopers & Lybrand's racecard is to be believed, the Budget will be painful for many taxpayers. Peter Wyman, the head of tax, believes his odds are fair. "The first Budget provides the Chancellor with the chance to put his stamp on the way the Government wants the economy to be run," he said.

☐ *The racecard can be found at http://www.uk.coopers.com/tax/budgetracecard.*

ITC may split digital television licences

THE outcome of the race to win the right to broadcast digital TV in terrestrial form, a service that will make dozens of new channels available next year, will be announced by the Independent Television Commission as early as this week (Eric Reguly writes).

An announcement had been expected in late May, but difficulties in deciding which of the two bidders had the superior proposal is thought to have delayed the process. Speculation is mounting that the ITC could split the licences between the two rivals.

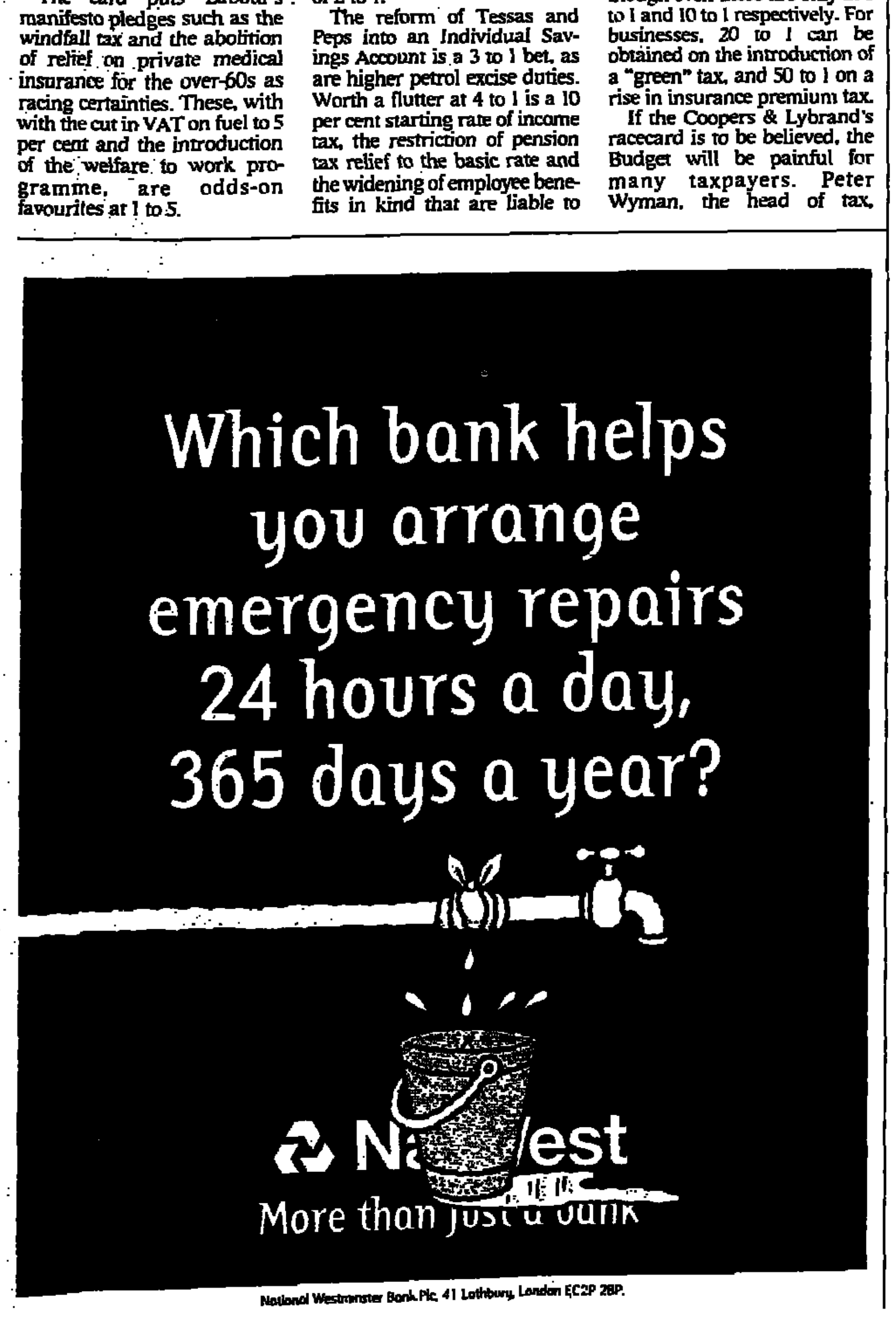
The race pits the Digital Terrestrial Network, owned by NTL, a US cable company, against British Digital Broadcasting, a group owned by Carlton, Granada and BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster that is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*.

Six ideas for Shell's Brent Spar platform

SHELL will today receive six proposals on how to rehabilitate its discarded Brent Spar oil platform (Oliver August writes).

Contractors have spent five months working on the details of the proposals, which were submitted and shortlisted at the start of this year.

The plans include using the platform as the foundation for a harbour quay in Norway and turning it into an eco-friendly wind and wave power plant or an artificial reef. Shell originally received proposals from 19 leading offshore contractors and consortiums. The only one immediately rejected was an idea to bury the Brent Spar in the seabed. Shell has said that using the Brent Spar is preferable to disposal. Shell abandoned its plan to sink the structure after protests in the UK and in Germany.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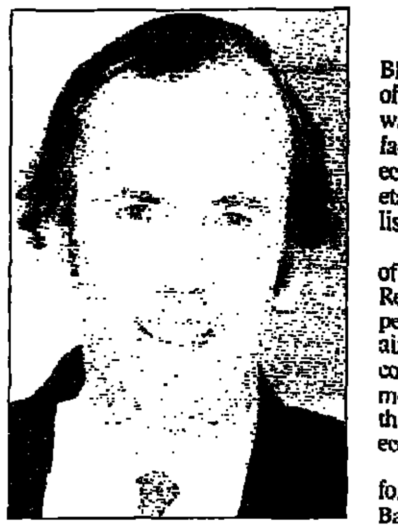
Agnostic approach to single currency urged



Pennant-Rea: adjustment plea

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRITAIN should pursue a strategy of "constructive agnosticism" towards a single currency although it faces formidable legislative and economic obstacles to joining monetary union early, a report published today argues.

The report, produced by a panel of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) chaired by Rupert Pennant-Rea, finds that Britain, unlike most other European countries, has made "virtually no moves forward" towards adopting the right policy framework for economic monetary union.

However, Mr Pennant-Rea, a former Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, says the Government would be capable of preparing the ground for UK membership by early next century. He adds that even if Britain chooses to remain outside the single currency permanently, the Government will need to adjust its economic policies to take account of the impact of the arrival of monetary union.

The report is published as the dispute between the Bundesbank and the German Government over gold revaluation and the outcome of the French elections have threatened to derail the single currency project.

Bruce Kausman, European economist at JP Morgan, remains confident that EMU is still on course to start in 1999. In his latest economic outlook, published today, he argues that while France and Germany may have lost some near-term political battles, "they still have the wherewithal to win the EMU war".

Mr Kausman also predicts that Europe has now passed the high point of fiscal restraint, prompted by the need to meet the Maastricht critiera, and is in for a period of looser fiscal policy led by tax cuts next year. He believes that GDP growth is set to average about 2.7 per cent across Europe over the coming three years.

The CEPR report, *The Ostrich and the EMU: Policy Choices Facing the UK*, argues that to join a single currency in 1999 would involve trying to hit "too many targets relative to the instruments" available to the Government.

The Government would need to establish full independence for the Bank of England, synchronise the UK economic cycle with the rest of the EU, and significantly raise taxes to help to reduce the budget deficit and move towards running a budget surplus over the fiscal cycle.

The report says that it is likely to prove particularly difficult to hit a sensible exchange-rate level for joining a single currency before 1999. Early membership is also likely to prove a big stimulus to the economy, at a time when most economists fear that it will be overheating, as interest rates fall to the level of the rest of Europe and investors receive a big boost from a jump in gilt prices.

Mr Pennant-Rea also points to two necessary long-term adjustments needed to ensure the UK economy functions successfully in a single currency. The structural impact of interest rate changes will need to be altered because, at present, interest rate moves have a much faster impact on the UK than the rest of Europe, making the country's economy more volatile.

The Government will need to encourage the use of more fixed debt, including the abolition of mortgage interest rate relief, to bring the UK into line with the rest of Europe. The Government will also have to improve the automatic measures of "fiscal stablisation" as it will no longer control the levers of monetary policy. The report concludes that this will entail a significant tightening in fiscal policy in order to run a budget surplus and allow the flexibility to increase the deficit in periods of economic downturn without breaking the 3 per cent deficit target.

But even if the UK stays out of a single currency, the UK will remain indirectly bound by the inflation and deficit targets of the single currency area and will need to take these into account in its making of economic policy to avoid a run on the country's assets. The report adds that Britain must be viewed as a "sympathetic out", committed to greater economic integration, rather than appearing to want only the benefits of the single market without sharing the obligations of single currency. If the UK pursued purely its own strategy it was likely to find itself increasingly discriminated against by the other European countries.

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

1997 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
139½	100½	11.80	AFA Systems	117½	+ 5		
153½	138½	20.00	AMCO Corp	140		5.5	10.2
422½	170	53.20	AND Int Pub	247½	− 10		
107½	84½	1.33	Abacus Recruit	102½		0.6	19.8
195	99½	31.00	Access Plus	186½	− 1½	3.2	24.4
100½	17½	3.66	Active Imaging	20			
205	200	20.30	A de Gruchy	205		4.4	..
11¼	8¼	9.78	African Gold	9½	− ¼		20.2
117½	81½	37.10	Airtech	81½	− 5		
44½	31¼	14.20	Albemarle & Bd	37½		0.8	16.1
52½	39½	7.87	Alizyme	45½	− 6		
111½	94½	2.96	Anglo-Welsh	95½	− 1	3.1	
530	455	50.90	Ann St Brewery	530		4.6	12.0
1140	1015	6.75	Ann St Cv Pf	1140		7.0	..
129½	65½	83.10	Antonov	108½	− 5½		
140½	115½	19.90	Aortech	115½	− 7		
100½	100	10.20	Archer Dedicated	100	..	1.0	55.6
29½	7	6.52	Arian Props	27½			
115	30½	47.60	Ashurst	55		...	
262½	130	47.80	Ask Central	230	− 7½	0.3	52.5
67½	64½	1.22	Athelney Trust	67½	+ 1	1.9	
103½	86½	68.40	Avalon Oil	90			
144½	130½	43.70	BATM Adv Comms	140½	− ½	2.2	
59½	32½	6.27	Barbican Health	32½	− 3½		
9¾	6½	16.40	Barrasford	9¾			
3¼	2½	5.19	Beechcroft	2¾			9.3
3¼	2½	5.75	Beaufort	3	− ¼		31.8
44½	38½	6.10	Bickerton	40			22.3
76½	61½	5.56	Bilston Battrsea	62½	− 1½	3.0	16.6
64	33½	16.80	Birmingham City	33½	− 6½		
185	145	1.28	Bowness Leis	182½		3.1	7.9
62½	45½	8.66	Brancote Hldgs	49½	− 1		
93	88	3.78	Br Bloodstock	90		2.1	25.8
565	510	67.30	Brockbank	547½	..	1.9	13.4
185	144½	19.60	CA Coutts Hldgs	185	+ 10	2.0	20.7
180	128½	8.92	C & B Publishing	175		..	
109½	109½	0.12	CCI Founder Shs	109½	..		
182½	140½	1.46	CCI Hldgs	182½		1.7	8.2
210½	170	5.51	Cafe Inns	190	+ 2	1.6	14.6
70	55	8.00	Caledonian Tst	65			11.1
3½	3	3.17	Calidore Group	3			
1½	0½	1.60	Calidore Grp Wts	1			
17½	9	2.01	Cambridge Min Res	9¼	..		
51	29	40.60	Card Clear	44	+ ½		43.5
97½	62½	6.31	Cansbrooke Ship	62½	− 3	7.0	5.9
62	52	3.13	Cassidy Bros	57		6.6	14.7
57½	47½	2.09	Cavendish W	47½		4.2	24.3
18	13	4.84	Celebrated Group	14½	..	2.3	12.8
£550	£275	88.50	Celtic	£295	−3000		
£450	£270		Celtic Pf Shs	£295	−3000		
111½	96½	22.90	CI Comms(TV)	104½		3.3	12.3
65	54½	12.00	Charlton Ath	55	− 2½		
9	6¼	8.25	Charterhouse	8¼	− ¼		17.3
37½	17½	2.01	Chartwell Intl	17½			
170	107½	177.20	Chelsea Village	113½	− 3		
265	145	12.70	Chemical Design	195			27.7
202½	65	8.32	Circle Comms	75	+ 1	1.7	
110	110	0.99	Clan Homes	110	..		72.7
2½	2½	1.05	ClubPartners	2½			
150½	132½	15.70	Comino	142½	− 2	2.0	13.4
587½	527½	14.10	Com de Prt Fin	587½	+ 5	2.1	11.4
30	14	10.10	Concurrent Tech	21½		0.6	33.9
150	95	0.25	Conc Tech A Prf	100			
150	95	0.20	Conc Tech B Prf	100	..	..	..
200	125	1.01	Conc Tech Rd Pf	150			..
300	150	0.17	Conc Tech Cv Pf	225	..		
41	36½	8.40	Conister Tst	38	...	6.6	9.4
4½	2	5.07	Corporate Exec	3¼			16.4
230	153½	45.00	Country Gdns	228½	+ 3½	0.9	21.1
175	117½	5.19	Cntry Gdns Pf	170		7.4	
37½	6½	2.69	Creos Intl	7½	− 3½		...
290	235	4.08	Crown Eye	255	...	6.1	6.2
28½	8½	4.00	Crown Products	8½	− 1		21.2
20½	18½	0.89	Dalkeith Inns	18½			
117½	84½	6.24	David Glass	115½	+ 12	6.7	
160	120½	5.60	Dawn Til Dusk	160			12.4
262½	215	131.80	Dawson Hdgs	232½	− 5	2.6	22.2
16½	10½	6.02	Dean Corp	13	− 1	4.8	7.7
174½	169½	10.70	Deep Sea Leisure	169½			22.7
3¼	2	2.58	Dentmaster	2	− ¼		13.2
460	360	46.40	Dicom	360		0.5	14.8
105½	89½	15.40	Digital Anmtn	104½			
72½	50½	11.20	Dmatek	59½			
310	240	14.10	Dobbies Garden	299	− 1	1.9	18.9
148½	122½	14.50	Dragons Health	145	+ 6½		27.4
3¼	2	1.71	Drings of Bath	2¼		..	11.0
42½	30	3.41	Eagle	35	+ 1½		
81½	49½	10.70	Easynet	66½	− 6	...	..
445	207½	70.70	Elec Retail Sys	335	− 20	...	
60½	36½	32.70	Electrophoretics	42½	...		...
52½	7½	3.55	Epic Multimedia	15¼	− 1¼		..
65	45	11.60	Epicore Ntwks	45		..	
275	190	9.25	Eurasia Mining	250	+ 27½	...	
125	125	5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	..		
175	165	16.90	Eve Group	172½	− 2½	1.1	
350	260	6.76	Fairlake	260			17.3
77½	47½	7.55	Fayrewood	53½	− ¼	1.9	..
191½	130½	53.80	Fibernet	144½	+ 7		
69½	47½	2.38	Fieldens	47½		3.9	27.4
242½	205	5.58	Finl Pubis	232½	...	...	8.1
14½	11½	2.44	Fast Infor	12		...	
200	109½	42.60	Fitness First	155	...		60.7
230	150	3.90	Flomerics	150	...	2.5	12.2
292½	247½	7.67	Floral St	247½		0.8	17.7
32½	22½	5.14	FNR Hldgs	24½			..
152½	115½	12.70	Formscan	119½		3.4	12.0
110½	89½	8.59	Fountain Forest	96½	+ 1	...	14.9
51¼	37	201.50	Freepages	41½	+ ½	..	...
180½	140½	10.80	Furlong Homes	180	..	2.3	12.4
164½	124½	18.00	Future Int Telep	162½	− 2	..	
296	129½	14.00	GB Railways	159½	− 3	..	
55½	50½	16.30	Gall Thomson Env	52½	..		9.9
16¼	11½	45.30	Gander Hdgs	15½	− ¼		
107	82½	77.90	Gartland W&B	89½		0.4	8.1
102	54½	76.50	Geo Int Media	76½	+ ½		
32¼	12	40.10	Gold Mines Sard	31	+ ¼		
23	7	11.20	Gold Mns Sard Wts	21	− ½	...	..
127½	120½	43.20	Goshawk Insce	127½			..
15¼	14¾	1.80	Grosvenor Ltd	14¾			
155	140	35.00	Gurlon	155	..	3.8	11.4
330	265	34.20	HIT Entertain	305		0.2	
8	5¾	2.39	Hansom	6¼	..		..
175	155	11.30	Hardy Undwtg	155		1.6	
77½	54½	3.32	Hat Pin	75½		4.5	12.1
315	275	6.62	Heavitree	315		2.8	16.4
270	245	11.10	Heavitree A	265		3.3	13.8
160	110	5.38	Hercules Prop	160			8.7
175	105	11.60	Highams Sys	130			19.0
125	115	147.80	Hiscox	120		2.6	...
75	75	1.20	Hurlingham	75			
107½	104½	7.07	Hydro-Dynamic	105½		1.4	
172½	138	24.10	IES	139½	− ½	1.4	43.3
77½	66½	18.10	Ind Brit Health	70		1.8	9.9
90½	55½	11.80	Indpt Energy	90	+ 5½		
133½	116½	21.90	Indpt Radio	122½	..		
198½	141½	37.80	Infobank Intl	196	− 1	..	
60½	42½	11.80	Inner Workings	60½			..
105½	102½	3.17	Integrd As Mgt	105½	− ½		
79½	62½	16.20	Intelligent Env	72½			..
110	42½	25.90	Internet Tech	85½	− 9		
151½	35½	24.10	Interoute Tele	72½	+ 8		
285	222½	34.30	Intl Greetings	260	...	2.6	14.6
179½	144½	37.40	IOC Intl	152½	+ 2		47.0
164½	159½	7.16	ITG Group	159½	− ½		
155½	122½	12.50	Jardinane Int	142½	..		..
74½	62½	3.05	Jasmin	74½	...	...	12.3
347	290	25.30	Jennings Bros	342½	+ 2½	2.6	23.5
4¼	3½	4.84	J Lewis Hford	3½			16.9
62½	50½	8.51	Jordec	52½	− 2		
5¼	2	5.70	Just Group	3¼		...	
132½	91½	50.20	KS Biomedix	118½			
50½	47½	5.46	Kern River	47½			
130½	122½	5.17	Lady in Leisure	124½	+ 1		
132½	77½	28.60	La Senza	85½	− 1	..	
150	130	24.80	Lancashire En	135		4.1	12.9
385	340	23.40	Lawrence	355		2.7	
3350	3150	63.60	Lawrie Group	3350		2.6	10.2
375	326	62.30	Le Riches Strs	375		5.5	15.8
14	9	0.46	Life Numbers	9¼			
4	2	0.06	Life Numbrs Wts	2		..	
535	480	10.50	Loades	535	− 10	0.2	49.8
106½	49½	20.00	Loftus Road	50	− 6½		
12¾	6¾	2.13	Lon & Edin Publ	7	− 1¼	4.5	5.3
75	70	1.75	London Town	70		2.9	13.6
119½	112½	3.76	Longbridge Intl	119½		..	16.7
87½	37½	10.30	Loox	44½			
3¼	1½	2.60	Lotteryking	1½	− ¼		19.2
1	0½	0.09	Lotteryking Wts	0½			...
88	58	7.74	MMS Petroleum	64	− 14		
27½	14	9.55	Magnum Power	15	− ½		..
290½	245½	31.20	Majestic Wine	245½	− 6½		10.6
19½	9½	7.80	Marx & O'seas	13	− 1	3.1	24.8
125	105	2.82	Matrix Hlthcare	122½		6.9	14.1
13¼	10¼	4.64	Mears Group	12½	+ 1	2.0	11.7
93½	88½	54.10	Megalomedia	92½			51.9
86½	83½	0.93	Megalomedia Wts	85			
67½	42½	2.98	Meltek	42½		7.4	31.4
65	33½	28.60	Memory Corp	45	− 4½		
16½	6½	6.43	Meteor Tech	9	− 1		
15	7	0.14	Meteor Tech Wts	7			
50	46	4.22	Methven's	50			
25	20	5.41	Metrodome	22			..
84½	62½	3.81	Mondas	62½	− 10		
345	200	36.30	Moorepay	342½	− 2½	1.6	42.1
112	90	7.52	Mouhtcashel	99			8.7
215	169½	36.70	Mulberry Group	177½	− 2½	0.5	27.7
40	9½	2.74	MultiMedia	9½			
21	17	1.33	NECA	18	− 1	3.5	7.8
54½	47½	19.60	NMT	50	− ½		..
72½	67½	1.94	NRP	67½		1.9	29.8
285	215	16.30	NWF Grp	215		6.2	11.1
220	190	15.40	Nash (Wm)	220		4.3	8.1
300	275	7.28	Neill Clerk	280		3.6	10.1
85½	45½	12.20	Netcall	80½	− 5		..
242	185½	66.40	Network Tech	212½	− 10	0.6	
80½	75	1.43	Norhomes	75			23.2
50½	30½	6.57	Nthn Petim	35½			
31½	28½	1.86	Northstar Sec	31			
10	3	0.30	Northstar Sec Wts	10			
178½	112½	46.80	Nursing Home	118		3.9	26.9
167½	102½	19.00	Omnicare	161	+ 7	1.3	
10½	5½	1.48	Omnimedia	6			
97½	50½	1.73	On Line	52½			
65½	37½	23.00	Oxford Biomedica	40½			
3¾	1¾	35.30	Pacific Media	2¾			
69½	29	13.80	Pan Andean Res	32½	− 2	..	
245	220	5.88	Park Ests(Lvi)	245		4.7	17.9
23¾	13	9.12	Pembertons	20			
57½	35	5.42	Personal No Co	35	− 1½		
70½	38½	19.70	Petra Diamonds	67½	− 2	..	
49½	13½	0.83	Petra Dmnds Wt	49½	+ 4		
137½	80	34.20	Philippine Gd	80	− 7½		
70½	52½	13.40	Prial Tech	52½	− 5		
138½	97½	20.50	Polymasc Pharms	102½	− 9		
2¾	1½	3.28	Pordum Foods	1½			
1½	1	0.22	Pordum Fds Wts	1			
22	13	10.60	Premier Ast Mng	19	− 1		66.9
3	2½	3.15	Prestbury Leis	2½		16.0	10.1
590	540	11.00	Preston Nth E	550			
104½	102½	16.60	Primary Hlth Pr	103½	..	1.4	
590	295	74.30	Prism Rail	295	− 19	..	
127½	115½	20.90	Q Group	125½	− 1½		
1265	945	283.40	Ramco Egy	1077½	+ 2½	0.1	
110½	77½	11.70	Raphael Zrn	107½	..	2.3	9.7
127½	94½	18.20	Recycling Servs	112½		3.6	
131½	106½	9.99	Reflec	131½			...
6	4¼	3.80	Revelation Plc	6		1.6	8.2
45	17½	25.70	Riceman Insce	39	+ 1		
80½	74½	3.87	Romtec	74½	− 1	2.6	15.0
2¼	2	3.46	Rushmere Wynne	2¼	..		
0¾	0¾	0.07	Rush Wyn Wts	0¾			
155½	152½	18.00	SCI Ent	153½			...
42½	24½	5.54	SEA Multimedia	24½			
75½	62½	6.91	Sanctuary Music	70½		...	9.1
12½	5½	0.80	Scotswood Inds	7½		8.3	
6	3¾	10.20	Screen	5			20.6
350	245	11.80	Scruttons	245	..	6.6	14.1
82	72	15.60	Selector	80	− 2		
30½	17½	1.01	Self Sealing	17½	− 2		..
177½	154½	8.52	Shalbone	177½		2.8	
104½	74	4.98	Shelton (M)	94	..	5.7	11.4
16	12½	38.20	Sibir Energy	15			
233½	208½	29.70	Sinclair Montrs	238½	+ 2		37.7
4½	2¼	6.04	Sira Bus Serv	2¼		2.2	19.4
1½	1	0.29	Sira Bus Wts	1½	...		
3¾	1¼	10.10	Snakeboard	1½	..		
108½	102½	10.60	Soccer Inv	105½	− 2		
84½	80½	5.20	Solid State Sp	82½		4.2	13.7
34½	28½	3.13	Soundtracs	31	− ½	3.2	19.3
6½	6	10.10	South Beach Cafe	6¼			
783	619½	177.90	Southern News	735		3.1	23.8
72½	65½	14.40	Southern Vectis	72½		3.3	15.6
260½	173½	29.30	Staffware	252½	+ 7½	0.5	
635	427½	96.00	Stanford Rook	497½	+ 17½		
177½	127½	10.80	Stenlor	154½	− 1		..
510	410	57.70	Surrey Fr Inns	497½	− 2½	0.6	34.4
152	127	15.20	Sutton Harbour	152	+ 1	1.0	21.7
22	9	1.21	Syst Integ Rsch	9			
23	18½	4.43	TDS Circuits	21	− ¼		9.7
97½	67½	14.20	Theo Fennell	87½	+ 2		22.5
14	9½	21.10	Thomas Potts	11¾	− 1	1.1	
32½	25¼	2.01	Tom Hoskins	26½			...
158½	145½	23.50	Total Office	146½	+ 1	4.1	9.4
595	375	28.90	TRACKER Netwk	545			..
120	90	20.40	Tradepoint Fcl	95	− 15		...
167	160	5.60	Trinity Care	160	+ 3½	3.9	
170	170	1.50	Trinity Care Pf	170		5.5	
60½	33½	173.90	Trocadero	35	− 1		
40	40	3.64	Univent	40		..	21.0
397½	357½	7.16	Utd Auctions	397½		2.8	10.6
280	145	15.20	VDC	145	..	4.5	11.5
39	20¾	97.10	Versailles Grp	38½	+ 1½	1.3	...
53	48	91.90	Victory Corp	48½	..		
242½	97½	3.38	Viewinn	112½			
240	220	6.58	Voss Net	235			
91	51	23.80	Waterfall	88	− 1½		20.9
34	27	6.24	Watermark	33	..	3.0	11.7
32	9½	12.50	Wedderburn Secs	20			
17	1¼	0.07	Wedd Secs Wts	2	..		
7	5	7.24	Weeks Group	5½	..	3.0	9.2
115	75	3.12	West 175 Enter	80	..		
£280	£180	13.90	West Bromwich	£190	..		29.4
12½	11½	3.89	Western Selectn	12			47.7
4½	4½	0.28	Western Sel Wts	4½		...	
124½	44½	13.10	Westmount Engy	120½	− 2		
89½	80½	4.20	Whitecross	87½	+ 2		
245	181½	31.20	Whittard Chelsea	196½	+ 11½	1.5	23.4
82½	45½	9.74	W'chester M Md	82½	+ ½		
197	169	42.30	World Telecom	196	− 1		
135	120	4.32	Wynnstay Props	135		4.3	19.3
12	9	5.23	Xavier Comp	10	...		
157½	130½	6.26	Yeoman	130½			
300	290	26.80	Zergo	295	..		74.1
29½	10½	2.42	Zicor Mining	10½	− 2		

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QANTAS

Quoted companies in intensive care

BY CHRIS AYRES

AS MANY as 130 quoted companies went into financial "intensive care" between 1995 and 1996 to rescue their businesses, a survey out today reports.

The extent to which many quoted companies are failing to cope with the pressures of being traded on the stock market is shown for the first time. Murdoch McKillop, vice-president of the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency, which carried out the survey, said: "In today's environment of low inflation and competition it's difficult to hide anything.

"Companies have to try to keep their share prices up and please shareholders. There is also a huge pressure on them to be seen to be performing."

The society estimates that a total of 2,000 quoted and private companies with a combined turnover of between £22 billion and £25 billion took emergency financial measures last year. According to the survey, the most common cause of failure was a loss of market share caused by bad management.

Mr McKillop added: "Most cases of failure lie at management's door. It's their job to make sure that these things don't happen. Many managers are too confident or just rely on gut feelings."

Lloyds Bank Interest Rates
for Personal Customers

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Gold Service and Asset Management Service Current Accounts	Gross %	Net %
£50,000+	2.50	2.00
£10,000+	2.25	1.80
£ 5,000+	1.50	1.20
£ 1+	1.00	0.80

LLOYDS BANK BASE RATE

Effective from 6 May 1997	6.25% per annum

MORTGAGES

	% Per Annum
Lloyds Bank Mortgage Rate, Home Loan Rate and Lloyds Bank Black Horse Mortgage Rate from 1 June 1997	7.60

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Investment Account	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£100,000+	5.70	4.56	5.56	4.45
£ 50,000+	5.30	4.24	5.18	4.14
£ 25,000+	4.95	3.96	4.84	3.87
£ 10,000+	4.60	3.68	4.51	3.61
Below £10,000	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

Instant Savings Account	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£25,000+	3.75	3.00	3.69	2.95
£10,000+	3.40	2.72	3.35	2.68
£ 5,000+	2.95	2.36	2.91	2.33
£ 500+	2.60	2.08	2.57	2.06
Below £500	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

30 Day Savings	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£25,000+	3.80	3.04	3.74	2.99
£10,000+	3.50	2.80	3.45	2.76
£ 5,000+	3.20	2.56	3.15	2.52
Below £5,000	*0.50*	*0.40*	*0.50*	*0.40*

Asset Management Service Investment Account	Gross %	Net %
£100,000+	5.56	4.45
£ 50,000+	5.18	4.14
£ 25,000+	4.84	3.87
£ 10,000+	4.51	3.61
Below £10,000	2.91	2.33

Tessa	6.75% Tax-Free

Interest rates may vary from time to time. This notice lists current rates.
GROSS – The annual interest rate before deduction of tax (where applicable)
NET – The annual interest rate after deduction of tax at the appropriate rate, this is shown for illustrative purposes only
Certain customers may be able to reclaim the tax from the Inland Revenue.
TAX-FREE – The annual interest rate when interest is exempt from income tax
Interest is normally paid at the net rate, unless the Account falls within an exempt category or the Account-holder qualifies to receive interest gross.

These rates of interest apply with effect from 2 June 1997

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Blair 'set to clinch deal on military aircraft'

By Oliver August

TONY BLAIR, the Prime Minister, is believed to be negotiating a deal with the German Government that will secure the future of the UK's two foremost military aircraft developments and create 57,000 jobs.

Under the deal, expected to be concluded on Friday, the £45 billion Eurofighter and the Future Large Aircraft (FLA), a military transport aircraft, would get approval.

The deal would break a year-long logjam. Hitherto, the German Government has failed to sign up to the Eurofighter and the UK Ministry of Defence has been reluctant to commit itself to the Airbus-built FLA.

The two countries' defence ministers will meet on Wednesday and could prepare the ground for an announcement on Friday. Insiders believe that a go-ahead before the Paris air show, which takes place a week later, would give the two governments a political boost. Both governments have come under intense pressure from manufacturers and unions to fully approve the two aircraft programmes.

According to British Aerospace, a partner on both aircraft, the FLA would create 35,000 jobs across Europe and the Eurofighter 250,000. About 20 per cent of these jobs would be created in Britain.

The Defence Ministry ordered 232 Eurofighters last year, but its military transporter requirement is at least partly met by Hercules C130 aircraft.

BAe said: "An FLA go-ahead would clearly be of great value to us. There is an enormous market in the next ten to 15 years to replace the C130. There is strong potential for export beyond the initial European launch customers."

In addition to the jobs boost, BAe and other UK subcontractors would also profit from the new skills and technology associated with the launch of the FLA.

Germany and France, the other main FLA partner, have been campaigning to win UK approval for the FLA. Gunnar Simon, the German defence procurement chief, said that every day of delay was a danger to the FLA's future.

A go-ahead for the FLA programme would include a $100 million work package, known as pre-launch activity. While European governments procrastinated on an FLA decision over the past two years, the defence companies involved under the Airbus umbrella spent $300 million to keep the programme going.

Eurofighter: jobs boost

Time for Gordon Brown to spread a little gloom

ROGER BOOTLE

The words "mini budget" conjure up images of old Labour and financial crises, more redolent of 1970s gloom than the sunny first few months of new Labour. Yet in the mini budget, which we expect in a few weeks, Gordon Brown must be prepared to spread gloom by raising taxes.

The reason is well-known by now — the need to correct a sharp imbalance in the economy. The problem is simply that consumers are having too good a time. There is an easy treatment on offer — higher interest rates. The trouble is that this is the sort of physic which treats one part of the body at the cost of causing painful side-effects to another. For, while consumer spending needs some restraint, manufacturing industry is in the doldrums. Most of its problems can be traced to the excessively strong pound. If interest rates are raised further, the pound will remain at current levels, or be pushed even higher.

There is also a European aspect to this argument. Suppose we eventually opt to join EMU. Our interest rates are already double the German level. If we are to avoid the consequences of a sharp drop in rates on joining EMU, then we should aim to re-align to a policy which can responsibly permit lower interest rates. This means higher taxes.

But if we stay out of EMU, or if it is delayed, there is the danger of a further sterling surge. For the Bank to be able to counter this with lower interest rates, consumer spending will have to be well under control.

Of course, it is impossible to hit exactly the right policy when economic developments are so uncertain. But Mr Brown should ask himself what harm would befall the economy if it proved that he had tightened fiscal policy too much. He would land up with a super-low, or even negative, public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR), and the scope for lower interest rates and a weaker pound. Would this be a bad thing?

What stands against higher taxes are three weak arguments — two economic and one political. Some economists argue that there is no need to raise taxes because the PSBR is falling fast.

But the essential argument for higher taxes is not fiscal but economic, namely the need to redress the imbalance in the economy. Yet even in purely fiscal terms it would be short-sighted to over-emphasise the current borrowing numbers. The recent improvements come after some disappointingly high figures. It is only four years since the deficit was running at £45 billion. Given that the economy is in a strong recovery phase, the PSBR should be low and falling.

The second economic argument is that fiscal policy should not be used for so-called fine-tuning. But raising taxes now does not necessarily mean tinkering with tax rates in a way that may subsequently be reversed. Rather, Mr Brown should correct anomalies and restructure the system in a way which makes medium-term sense. The abolition of mortgage interest tax relief is an obvious example. The existence of this relief owes nothing to economic sense and everything to political expediency. If it were abolished it would certainly not be reintroduced.

The political argument is quite simply that Labour won the general election pledging not to increase the standard or higher rates of tax, and sharply criticising the Conservatives for promising lower taxes then promptly increasing them "22 times". If Labour were to increase them now it would squander a massive amount of public goodwill and support.

It would be depressing in the extreme if this argument won the day. In 1990-92, the Conservatives lost control of spending and borrowing and their policies contributed to a very deep recession. Having sold themselves as the party of low taxes, they were then forced to raise them at precisely the time that people were reeling from the effects of the recession.

If Mr Brown raised taxes now it would be in the midst of consumer strength, not in the teeth of the recession. It would not be to fund increased spending — a return to old Labour tax-and-spend policies — but to reduce borrowing. It would be made necessary not by Labour's mistakes but by the Conservatives'. In these circumstances, voters are unlikely to feel betrayed in the way that they did after 1992. More fundamentally, if the Government were to balk at taking the right course of action for fear of voter reaction it would be a betrayal of a deeper sort of trust.

If a Government cannot do the right thing now, having just won a mandate that will probably last for two full terms, and operating with a massive parliamentary majority, when can it? Failure to act now could mean a worse fate later, including leaving interest rates to the mercy of Eddie George and the inflation hawks at the Bank, thereby risking the economic recovery and all of Labour's hopes.

The source of the Conservatives' recent economic success, namely a competitive pound, had to be foist upon them by our exit from the ERM. Mr Brown should choose this himself without having it thrust upon him later by the markets. The Government can witter on about jobs initiatives and sustainable growth until the cows come home, but in the end it will do no good whatever if they get this macro issue wrong.

Every new Chancellor is an unknown quantity. So far Mr Brown has impressed nearly everyone by his boldness and decisiveness. Yet the forthcoming Budget presents Mr Brown with his supreme test, even though it comes so early in his Chancellorship. Will he grasp the nettle on tax or shy away from it? From this decision shall we know him.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6375 (+0.0075)
German mark
2.7913 (+0.0356)
Exchange index
99.3 (+1.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2971.5 (-31.5)
FTSE 100
4621.3 (-40.5)
New York Dow Jones
7331.04 (-14.87)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
20068.81 (+59.81)

Scottish Media framing £100m Grampian bid

SCOTTISH MEDIA, the owner of Scottish Television, confirmed that it will bid about £100 million this month for Grampian Television, the small ITV company based in Aberdeen (Eric Reguly writes).

The Barclay brothers, owners of the *The Scotsman* and *Scotland on Sunday*, were thought potential suitors, but Scottish Media is considered the only logical buyer because it can slash costs by combining the two ITV operations. Scottish Media will probably offer 320p a share against Grampian's Friday close of 265p.

There is also speculation that Granada is to bid for the 73 per cent of Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television that it does not already own.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *39*

GHEG

(b) A people of Northern Albania; a member of this people, also their language. Byron, *Childe Harold*: "Though they have some cavalry amongst the Ghegden. I never saw a good horseman." P. Driscoll, *White Lie Assignment*: "My method has kept me safe for twenty years against stupid Ghegs like him."

FACULA

(c) One of the bright or luminous spots or streaks on the surface of the sun, as distinguished from the dark spots or *maculae*. Lords Herschel, *Astronomical Outlines*, 1858: "Streaks more luminous than the rest called Faculae."

GAMBALOCKE

(c) An Oriental riding coat. G. Sandys, 1625: "A man of small stature, clothed in a gambalocke of scarlet buttoned under the chin." Blount, 1674: "Gambalocke used in the Eastern countreys about Damascus."

FAJA

(b) A Mexican sash. H. S. Merriman, *Kedar's Tents*, 1897: "About his person in the form of handkerchief and faja were touches of bright colour." *Discovery*, 1931: "The faja may be worn by either men or women, according to style and design."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rxg6! hxg6 (1 ... Qxg6 2 Qxe7) 2 Nf6 Qf8 3 Qh4+ Kg7 4 Qh7 checkmate

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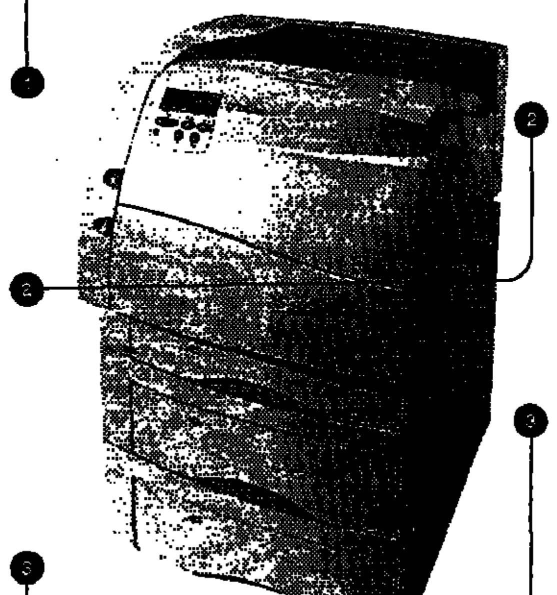
Australia $	2.25	2.09
Austria Sch	20.53	18.99
Belgium Fr	60.41	55.78
Canada $	2.373	2.198
Cyprus Cyp£	0.871	0.804
Denmark Kr	11.15	10.33
Finland Mkk	8.90	8.20
France Fr	9.84	9.11
Germany Dm	2.93	2.71
Greece Dr	470	433
Hong Kong $	13.42	12.29
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.13	1.05
Israel Shk	5.89	5.24
Italy Lira	2931	2710
Japan Yen	204.30	187.80
Malta	0.659	0.602
Netherlds Gld	3.314	3.038
New Zealand $	2.53	2.30
Norway Kr	12.19	11.31
Portugal Esc	298.50	273.00
S Africa Rd	8.01	7.10
Spain Pta	248.50	229.00
Sweden Kr	13.38	12.35
Switzerland Fr	2.45	2.24
Turkey Lira	239798	221259
USA $	1.736	1.603

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.



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Silence is golden in world of the computer calamity

Tony Collins

on the hidden cost of failed schemes to computerise services

Computerising the ambulance call-out system in London was fraught with difficulty

When a dark-suited businessman collapsed on a dusty, crowded platform at West Croydon railway station, fate could not have chosen a worse place and time to strike. For this was 1992 when the capital's ambulance service was implementing an enterprising new computer system.

The aim of the project had been to fully automate and speed up the process whereby ambulances are dispatched to an emergency. Unfortunately for the businessman, the systems had been built within the constraints of an under-estimated budget and an overly demanding deadline. Yet the systems were representative of those commissioned in the private sector.

As the quivering figure lay on the concrete platform, one man ran to the station lobby where there was a bank of public telephones. He rang "999" and an operator answered promptly. "Ambulance ... quickly, please," begged the man.

"Just putting you through," said the operator. The phone rang twice, stopped and went silent; then ... "Your call is in a queue. Please hold the line. We will answer you as soon as possible. Please be ready to give details of your exact location." It was a recorded message that continued for several minutes.

Incredulous that Britain's capital city would divert its "999" calls to an answerphone, the man left the receiver off the hook and used an adjacent phone. A minute later each of the telephone receivers was on the top of their coin boxes, surreally repeating automated messages at each other. A call using a third phone was also answered by tape. The man was not to know that the London Ambulance Service's new computer system had reduced staff to a state of ineffectual despair.

Although the ambulance never arrived the businessman recovered from his epileptic seizure. Others in the capital urgently needing an ambulance did not fare so well. Public service unions alleged later there had been several deaths as a result of delays in reaching hospital because London Ambulance Service's new computer systems had failed to call out ambulances in time. No link between the system's underperformance and the deaths was ever proved.

However, the repeated failures of the new systems led to the resignations of the service's chief executive and chairman. Yet neither of them, by general computer project management standards, was particularly culpable. To some extent they were victims of a widespread ignorance over the specific early warning signs of a computer disaster. This ignorance has nothing to do with a failure to acquire knowledge: more an inability to acquire such information even if it is sought.

Even in the computer industry, authentic testimonies on the specific causes of computer calamities are scarce. The reason is an obvious and understandable one: chief executives and their directors would rather not own up to their mistakes.

Even in polite company there are rarely any discussions about the exact events that led to a disaster. It is as if senior executives view technology failures as they would a close relative who has been permanently confined to a mental institution.

> ❛ One clear message is that new technology should not be left entirely to technologists ❜

In some cases, where journalists have obtained some details of problems at particular sites, they have been threatened with legal action. Similar sensitivities hide some of the specific details of government computer mistakes. The result of all this collective embarrassment over technology failures is that the generalised guidance that is available to chief executives and senior management on disaster-avoidance can prove difficult to apply to new, seemingly unique projects.

Inevitably, then, when commissioning multimillion-pound systems, chief executives often plunge unknowingly into the same management pitfalls that have already ensnared their peers.

It is a very different picture to the one painted by industry icons such as Bill Gates, chairman of Microsoft, who frequently talks of the wonders of computers. By totalling the information technology disasters since 1980, as we have done in our book, *Crash*, one can see that, in the public sector alone, billions of pounds has been spent by UK taxpayers on seriously flawed or abandoned projects.

Exactly how much has been lost in the private sector is unknown but the Standish Group, the independent market researcher, has estimated that two thirds of computer projects fail. In one year in the US, $81 billion was lost on aborted computer projects.

So what are the common causes? *Crash* lists ten "deadly sins" which are themes that recur in most, if not all, disasters. The first is overambition. Typically this means under-estimating the cost and over-estimating the benefits. For example Parliament was told that integrated computerisation of welfare benefits would cost UK taxpayers £713 million. When MPs expressed scepticism about the figure, they were told by senior civil servants that, if anything, the costs would decrease as computer prices fell. In fact the systems ended up costing £2.6 billion. And the promised 20,000 staff cuts never materialised. Today a further £1 billion needs to be spent to realise the benefits of integrated welfare systems.

As with many computer projects, the welfare systems would have been judged a success if the anticipated benefits, at the beginning, had been halved and the costs calculated to the last penny and then tripled. The problem with doing such a calculation is that many projects would not be started if the real costs were known at the outset. Arguably, however, it would be better to anticipate the real costs than to learn of them only when millions have been spent and the project must be aborted because funds have run out.

A further danger area is the tailoring of a proven software package. For example the London Stock Exchange sought to modify a US software package for the UK market but this led to regular exchanges of computer specialists between the supplier's offices in New York and the exchange in London. At one point it seemed that most of the project's computer programmers were at 35,000ft over Nova Scotia.

One of the clearest messages from case studies is that new technology should not be left entirely in the hands of the technologists. Often disasters happen because chief executives who are in the best position to judge the progress of a scheme because they know *nothing* about computers, fail to intervene because they know nothing about *computers*.

An equal and opposite danger is the chief executive who knows too much about computers: the IT visionary.

There are also disasters caused by systems that have worked too well. For example the book distribution company Tiptree took 27 years to build up its reputation to become British Book Awards Distributor of the Year.

But it took only seven weeks, after problems with its computerised warehousing system, to become "probably the worst" distributor in the country. The systems worked perfectly but they were utterly unforgiving of human error. Once the Tiptree staff fed incorrect information into the systems, minor problems began to snowball. The problems were eventually resolved (at a price) and today Tiptree has a model system, which corroborates the theory that computer disasters can be a positive exercise if the business world learns from them.

Indeed, it is also useful to dissect the reasons for a project's successful implementation. Barclays Bank's Customer System was a success partly because senior management lowered the expectation of end-users.

Buckingham Palace's Royal Household is a model computer user. In the past some of the Queen's computer staff have complained that, as titular head of the Royal Household, she displays every quality of the perfect leader of a computer project — she is unadventurous, unexcitable and moves slowly but purposefully towards achieving a clear business objective through the use of computers.

The same could not be said for organisations such as Wessex Regional Health Authority, which set itself an ambitious target for how much it wanted to spend on computers — then dreamed up a vision for a computer project that allowed the spending target to be achieved. The authority lost between £43 million and £63 million on its computer contracts, though strangely all those involved went on to receive promotions, large severance payments, political honours or enjoyed other financial success.

☐ Tony Collins, editor of *Computer Weekly*, and David Bicknell, are the authors of *Crash*, to be published by Simon and Schuster; £20.

Absolutely Animals:
Tonight 8.30
Feathered, furry and
four-legged friends
4

TELEVISION CHOICE

A bellyful of bargains

Broadbent and Skinner (8.30pm, BBC1)

Dosh
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Adam Faith returns with another slice of streetwisdom on making money and sussing out bargains. Some of the material is on the stale side. Like the cheese a woman bought from Sainsbury's, though she got a replacement delivered to her door and a £10 voucher. Moral: do not just ask for your money back, demand compensation as well. But the tale of the man who filled his car with bananas to take advantage of a Tesco special offer has been told too often. Perhaps the most useful item is the advice to a young couple on furnishing their new home. It is surprising what you can pick up cheap when you know where to go. Faith and his team are also right to return to the great pensions scandal, not Maxwell but the many thousands of people persuaded to leave good company schemes for bad personal ones.

The Peter Principle
BBC1, 8.30pm

A new office sitcom arrives with traditional ingredients: incompetent boss, smart deputy and an assortment of lazy and dim-witted staff. This could almost be a rerun of Simon Nye's *Is It Legal?* except that the workplace is not a solicitor's office but a high street bank. But if the formula is familiar, the three writers, Mark Burton, John O'Farrell and Dan Patterson, do their best to bring it up fresh. In doing so they draw on the mechanics of farce, with, in this opening episode, a Valentine card delivered to the wrong person launching a series of embarrassed misunderstandings and tapping a rich seam of sexual innuendo. The result is by no means unfunny, particularly as the gibbering bank manager is played by Jim Broadbent and his number two by the equally splendid Claire Skinner.

Absolutely Animals
Channel 4, 8.30pm

The challenge for the cheery young vet Mark Evans at the start of the new series is an eight-year-old Burmese cat called Minimore which is breaking into houses and stealing fluffy toys. The children of Tunbridge Wells, if not disgusted, are extremely upset at the loss of their favourite teddies and bunnies. But count on Mark to come with an ingenious solution. The show's budget is stretched rather further to send the co-presenter Wendy Turner to Florida for a piece about dogs that can sniff out skin cancer on the human body. They have even discovered a melanoma which a biopsy missed. The abrupt switch from the trivial to the potentially momentous is thoroughly typical of an all-embracing magazine which is delivered in a breezy style and packs a lot into its 25 minutes.

The Good Life
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The title of this two-part documentary by a reliable name in the field, Malcolm Brinkworth, needs a question mark. The subjects are people who have left the city for the country to find a more congenial way of life. None of the three couples featured tonight has walked into a disaster, though the rural existence has proved tougher than they thought. All are glad to have left the noise and pollution for a cleaner, fresher environment and agreeable scenery. But taking on a farm means 4.30am starts for Roger Withnell, a former IBM executive, while the Reynolds family bravely acquire a goats' cheese business which is operating at well below break even point. Closest to self-sufficiency are the Nashes. They even generate their own electricity. But this is deceptive. His arthritic back means having to rely on invalidity benefit. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

The Monday Play: Fond Memories
Radio 4, 7.45pm

False memory syndrome, now called suppressed memory syndrome, has been known to psychiatrists for some years but only in recent times has the subject attracted controversy. This drama is not a polemic for one point of view or the other but it does express the issues, using the relationship between a father (Michael Jayston), and his daughter (Eve Matheson), who during therapy uncovers a memory of sexual abuse as a child. The issue of the drama is the same as the real-life one: are these memories real, or are they planted, however unwittingly, by the therapist? The consequences of getting such charges wrong are obvious, for nothing taints an adult quite so much as child abuse. The writer is Jim Hitchmough.

Tales of the Turf
Radio 5 Live, 9.00pm

This series about horse racing has brought to life a sport which many people regard as a mere vehicle for gambling. This programme will fascinate anyone who enjoys a good yarn and terrify most people involved in racing. The programme deals in "ringing", whereby a good horse runs disguised as a no-hoper, thus lengthening the odds. Appropriately enough, tonight's case involves a horse raced as In The Money, which had in fact been called Cobbler's March. The scam was uncovered when the owners of the latter recognised the horse and reported it to the authorities. There is a bizarre, Pythonesque, twist to the tale which demonstrates that even a dead horse can come back to haunt the wrongdoer. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session. Includes a session from Radiohead **8.30** Live Music Update with Briggy Smale **8.40** Andy Kershaw **10.30** Claire Sturgess **1.00** Charlie Jordan **4.00** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Anne Robinson **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.00** Chris Serle **7.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **8.00** Malcolm Laycock **9.00** Big Band Special **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Adrian Finighan **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine, with Diana Madill **12.00** Midday with Mair, includes at *12.45pm Moneycheck with Paul Lewis* **2.00** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide, with Julian Worricker **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Diff'rent Strokes. Pat Murphy talks to former Middlesex spinner Phil Edmonds (2/4) **8.00** Parkinson on Sport **9.00** Tales of the Turf. See Choice **9.30** Work Out **11.00** News Extra with Jeremy Vine **12.00** After Hours with Tim Grundy and Janice Long **2.00am** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** Twists of Nature **7.30** Omnibus **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Vintage Chart Show **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Youth Debate **10.05** World Business **10.15** Visions of Reality **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Sport **11.30** Omnibus **12.30pm** Jazzmatazz **1.05** World Business **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Seven Days **1.45** Sport **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Pop Science **4.05** Sport **4.15** On Your Behalf **4.30** Hot New Country **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.15** World Today **6.30** Seven Days **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** Counterpoint **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Multitrack: Hit List **9.00** Newshour **10.05** World Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Danger Squad **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack: Hit List **1.30** Keep to the Path Through Europe **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Seven Days **2.45** A Private View **3.30** On Screen **4.05** World Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **7.00** Mike Read **9.00** Hall of Fame Hour **10.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Classic Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Newsnight **7.30** Sonata **8.00** Concert Elgar (Froissart, Op 19; Sospiri, Op 70, Cello Concerto in E minor, Op 85, Four Dances, Variations on an Original Theme Enigma, Op 36; Pomp and Circumstance March No 1 in D major, Op 39) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Lunchtime Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Sibelius (String Quartet, Op 56), Locatelli (Concerto Grosso in F, Op 7 No 4); Lars-Erik Larsson (Pastoral Suite), Haydn (Concerto in G for Two Lyras); Debussy (Danse Sacree et Danse Profane); Spohr (Octet in E, Op 32)

9.00 Morning Collection. Peter Hobday continues a survey of the Mozart piano sonatas. Includes Vaughan Williams (English Folk Song Suite), Mozart (Piano Sonata in D, K284); Haydn (Sinfonia Concertante in B flat, H I 105)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. Bach (Sheep May Safely Graze); Nielsen (Overture: Maskarade), Leclair (Premiere Recreation); Mozart (Oboe Quartet in F, K370), Lyapunov (Transcendental Study No 9 in F sharp minor, Epic Song); Dvořák, reconstr Ingman (Octet Serenade, Op 22), Horovitz (Endymion), Alan Richardson (Scherzino): Ermend Bonnal (String Trio); Alan Richardson (Scherzino)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Dvořák Abroad

1.00pm News; BBC Lunchtime Concert. Live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Includes Mendelssohn (String Quartet in D, Op 44 No 1), Beethoven (String Quartet in F, Op 135). Performed by the Gaumen Quartet

2.05 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Mark Wigglesworth. With Katarina Kameus, mezzo. Mahler (Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen); Shostakovich (Symphony No 7· Leningrad)

3.45 Jazz à la Lee. In the third part of the series profiling the legendary jazz singer Peggy Lee, Mel Hill analyses Lee's unique vocal style and illustrates its flexibility in interpreting material from Cole Porter to Lieber and Stoller

4.15 Music Restored: Radio 3 Early Music Young Artists Showcase 1997. In the last concert of this year's event, given at the Royal Academy of Music, Ensemble Dumont under Peter Bennett performs music for voices and viols by the 17th-century French composer Henry Dumont (r)

5.00 The Music Machine: Music For Spaces. Karlheinz Stockhausen describes how he created a performance sphere where the audience listened in mid-air

5.15 In Tune. Presented by Natalie Wheen. Includes Debussy (Etudes Pour Piano); C.P.E. Bach (Symphony in E flat, Wq179); Schoenberg (Chamber Symphony No 2)

7.30 Ravel: Through the Looking Glass (Sounding the Century). The first of three concerts given by the London Symphony Orchestra under André Previn; Eunice Lee, violin. Ravel (Ballet Music, Mother Goose, Tzigane; Daphnis and Chloe: Suites Nos 1 and 2)

8.50 A Wet Handle. A five-part collection of songs, poems and stories from the humourist Ivor Cutler. With Beverley Crew, Dylan Edwards and Craig Murray-Orr

9.05 Shura Cherkassky. Piano recital. Schubert (Piano Sonata in A, D959); Balakirev (Islamey); Chopin (Waltz in C Sharp minor)

10.00 Voices. Iain Burnside experiences the sights and sounds of Italy

10.45 Mixing It. Mark Russell and Robert Sandall introduce a unique mix of musical styles

11.30 Composer of the Week: Korngold (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather introduces the band Como in a two-part concert given at the *Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham in February*

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, includes Thought for the Day **8.40** Letters from Over Here. In the third of four programmes the former American ambassador to London, Raymond Seitz, reflects on the British obsession with roundabouts **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, with *Times* columnist Melvyn Bragg and guests

10.00 News; Dear Diary (FM). An account by Liz Crow, a disabled woman who recieved unorthodox treatment at a clinic in Mexico (2/6)

10.00 Daily Service (LW) A service from St Columba's Church in Gartan, Co Donegal

10.15 On This Day (LW) June 2 1947

10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray. Includes an interview with the writer Arundhati Roy, whose first novel, *The God of Small Things*, has won a record advance

11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-580 4444. Personal finance news with Vincent Duggleby

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Mark Whittaker

12.25pm Brain of Britain. The first round of the nationwide general knowledge quiz, chaired by Robert Robinson, reaches the north of England **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Diamonds, by John Peacock. The final part of the trilogy of radio plays charting the journey of diamond. With Carolyn Jones, Ian Masters and Janet Maw

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor. Includes Simon Evans's attempt to get recognition for the world's shortest play

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker examines the author Thomas Hardy's little known musical compositions

4.45 Short Story: Price of Fame. Written by Michael Carson. Read by Stephen Thorne

5.00 PM, with Charlie Lee Potter and Jeremy Vine **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Willie's Wake: A Celebration of the Talents of Willie Rushton. Ned Sherrin is joined in the Coach and Horses pub in Soho, Central London, by Barry Cryer, Richard Ingrams, Lance Percival and Sir Tim Rice (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Food Programme. Derek Cooper partakes of a traditional picnic (r)

7.45 The Monday Play: Fond Memories. See Choice

9.00 Touched by the Trees. Six individuals explore the relationship between people and trees (r)

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Jeremy Harris

10.45 Book at Bedtime: A Month in the Country. J. L. Carr's acclaimed novel read in eight parts by Samuel West (6/8) (r)

11.00 Ballad of the Sad Cafés. The first of a four part series looking at expatriot cafés, where people come to be reminded of their homeland, visits a Polish establishment in Hammersmith (r)

11.30 Firefly Summer, by Maeve Binchy. Dramatised by Jane Cassidy. Starring David Soul, Anna Healy and Lorcan Cranitch (4/6) (r)

12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather

12.30am Late Book: The Information William Nighy begins a 15-part adaptation of Martin Amis's novel. Abridged by Neville Teller (r)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

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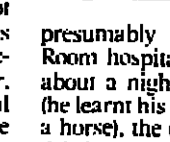
A new and unwelcome big noise in town

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Michael Grade would have understood. As we were reminded last night in *The Works*, Grade was the man who came within a legal nicety of taking *Match of the Day* to ITV and then, a decade or so later, brought *The Big Breakfast* to Channel 4. Put the two formats together and you get something pretty close to **World Cup Football**, Channel 5's first foray into live football.

Grade might have approved of the idea, but what would he have made of the execution? Like the rest of us, I suspect, not a lot. Above all it was an evening that will be remembered for its noise. "Plenty of noise, Jonathan?" inquired an anxious Brough Scott as he handed over to match commentator Jonathan Pearce in Katowice. Silly question really. While some men are hairy and others are smooth, Pearce, who cut his clichés on radio, is an noisy man, an very noisy man. "Shearerrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr," he yelled, just four and a half minutes after the commentator's traditional impartiality had been tossed unceremoniously aside: "I hope I express the opinion of you all back home when I say: Come on England."

Back in the studio, where a reasonable idea was going horribly wrong, it was even noisier. The plan, as far as one could glean, was to turn a Southampton television studio into one of those fashionable sports cafés and then invite a veritable galaxy of celebrities to come and eat, drink and, above all, be noisy at Channel 5's expense. But the problem with celebrities, even the C-list variety, is that they don't party to order.

In the early stages (such was its excitement, coverage began a full three hours before kick-off) almost nobody had turned up. Gail McKenna, model turned sports presenter, was grateful for a few words with Tom Watt (still, alas, best known as Lofty from *EastEnders*), while Jeremy Nicholas's career reached some sort of turning point when he interviewed the Crystal Palace eagle, the Cambridge United moose and a swan whose club loyalties I missed.

But as kick-off approached and Brough Scott grew ever more nervous, the noises off became deafening. "Keep it down," shouted Dominik Diamond, who whether by virtue of being a Scot or a late night phone-in host, is more used to such things. The decibel level dropped to a modest roar, interrupted by the occasional shriek of girlish laughter. The swan had just goosed a former Gladiator.

Come the final whistle, it was all over — the party, that is. Ready, Steady, Teddy had just made it two-nil to Eng-gur-land, but the celebs had already disappeared, presumably in search of Green Room hospitality. As Scott talked about a night of sporting history (he learnt his clichés on the back of a horse), the camera surveyed the debris: empty bottles, half-eaten food and the odd Page 3 Girl, whose big moment had been and gone. She thought it was all over . . . but actually the rugby was still to come. To read about that, and other aspects of the football coverage, turn to my Television Action Replay column in the sports section.

Not yet though — we've still got serious television matters to address — such as Welsh cattle and Michael Grade. What, Grade again? My thoughts exactly as I watched last night's toadying "special edition" of **The Works** (BBC2).

Had Grade died over the weekend without my noticing? Not a bit of it: he simply announced a few months ago that after 23 years he was giving up television, a departure which is passing more or less unmarked at Channel 4 (still his employer for a few more days) but, on the evidence of this, by some serious crawling round at the BBC. "Hey, we could call it *The Last Showman* — he'd love that." Indeed he would. In fact, Grade loved it so much he co-operated beautifully from beginning to end, cleverly ensuring that his career and reputation got the gentlest going-over they are ever likely to receive.

Much of it was familiar, much of it anodyne, but it was still enjoyable television, partly because Grade — for all his socks and cigars — is good and politely self-effacing company and partly because his career covers so much of entertainment history: from managing Morecambe and Wise to fielding the flak over *The Word*, Grade has always been there, until now.

Even his failures were the sort of flops that you and I dream of. When, in the words of Brian Tesler, he became "a lousy head of light entertainment" at LWT, the board's solution was to make him director of programming. Similarly when Hollywood turned out not be paved with gold, he was rescued by his old family friend, Bill Cotton. How about becoming Controller of BBC1?

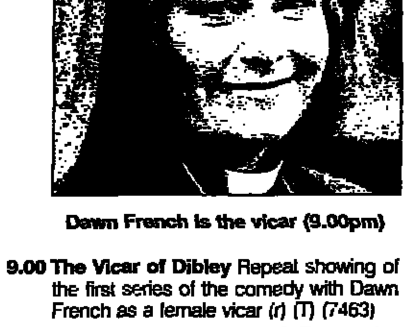
Were Grade still calling the shots at the BBC, **Drovers' Gold** (BBC1) would have quietly found itself on BBC2 rather than facing the unenviable task of pulling in a mass audience on a Friday night. A BBC2 audience might have warmed to its leisurely pace, those Welsh accents and the best looking cast of cows since *Hamish Macbeth*. A BBC1 audience? I doubt it.

Which is a shame, because the human cast, led by Robert Pugh and Geraldine James, is very good, too, and doing its best with a script that tends — rather too often — towards the theatrical. It's a cross between *Lonesome Dove*, that Irish thing with all the McGann brothers in it, and *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Or, to put it another way, it's the tale of how Aaron took his mother's cattle to market and comes back, hopefully, with more than a bag of beans. My money's on a wife, but it's early days yet — they've only got to Herefordshire.

6.00am Business Breakfast (84937)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (72005)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (5059840)
9.20 Style Challenge (3978024)
9.45 Kilroy (T) (9422111)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (24395)
11.00 News (T), regional news and weather (2583173)
11.05 Real Rooms Simon Biagi and the team transform an attic playroom (7411666)
11.35 The Great Escape (T) (4800550)
12.00 News (T), regional news and weather (1050598)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (5252802)
12.35 Neighbours (T) (4023918)
1.00 News (T) and weather (75192)
1.30 Regional News (T) (15187289)
1.40 The Weather Show (36382208)
1.45 Columbo (r) (5860276)
2.55 Through the Keyhole (5567647)
3.20 Country Walks to Curious Places (3291024)
3.30 Playdays (r) (5689550) **3.50** Monster Cafe (r) (3098918) **4.05** The New Yogi Bear Show (r) (9389640) **4.10** Casper (T)(9335734) **4.35** 50/50 (T) (6318598) **5.00** Newsround (T) (8023111) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (7780314)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (323531)
6.00 News (T) and weather (69)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (21)
7.00 Auntie's TV Favourites In the last of the series Steve Wright is joined by Michael Aspel and Alan Davis, star of *Jonathan Creek*. Plus: Dennis Skinner, MP, pays tribute to his hero, Trigger, of *Only Fools and Horses* fame (2314)
7.30 Here and Now Sue Lawley reports on anorexia among teenage boys and Glasgow police's attempts to get knives off the streets. Last in series (T) (55)
8.00 EastEnders Tension mounts in the Fowler household, and it is the day of reckoning for the beleaguered market manager Michael (T) (8734)
8.30 The Peter Principle In the first of a new six-part comedy series, a bank manager is not sure of his personal credit rating (T) (7869)
9.00 News (T), regional news and weather (9821)
9.30 Birds of a Feather With Darryl due to be released from prison, Sharon is going to have to find a diplomatic way of showing Tracey the door (T) (55753)
10.00 Panorama: A Costly Cure A report on the sometimes devastating effects of radiotherapy treatment (T) (634579)
10.40 Fire in the Sky (1993) with D.B. Sweeney, Robert Patrick and Craig Sheffer. Based on the true story of an alleged alien abduction which took place in Arizona in 1975. Directed by Robert Lieberman (T) (39707647) FILM
12.25am Beyond the Stars (1989) with Martin Sheen, Sharon Stone and Christian Slater. A young man obsessed with becoming an astronaut makes friends with an alcoholic Moon-landing veteran. Directed by David Saperstein (T) (5923244) FILM
1.55-2.00 Weather (6105048)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am OU: Time for You (T) (3647550) **6.25** Rich Mathematical Activities (T) (3666685) **6.50** Animated English. The Creature Comforts Story (7667314)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (1376395)
7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (T) (6291289) **7.55** Blue Peter (r) (T) (2476550) **8.20** Bump (8426937) **8.25** Open a Door (r) (1843821) **8.35** Raccoons (r) (2033666)
9.00 TV6 (26753) **9.30** Job Bank (4543463) **9.45** Watch Out Wildlife (4548918) **10.00** Teletubbies (67685) **10.30** The Geography Programme (9302550) **10.50** Look and Read Special (9322314) **11.10** Zig Zag (5647666) **11.30** Teaching Today (8956) **12.00** Teaching Today (13289)
12.30pm Working Lunch (33531)
1.00 Lifeschool Extra (23583444) **1.25** Landmarks: Sixties Liverpool (T) (90242227) **1.45** Storytime (15197666) **2.00** Bump (r) (62884050) **2.05** Open a Door (r) (63234591)
2.10 Alias Smith and Jones (r) (3157314)
3.00 News (T) (3288550) **3.05** Making Babies (r) (T) (4166260) **3.55** News (T) (3469289) **4.00** Blockbusters (3479666) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (3472753) **4.55** Esther. Celebrities discuss how they overcame dyslexia (5592937) **5.30** Today's the Day (98)
6.00 The Simpsons (T) (353208)
6.25 Space Precinct (r) (T) (913111)
7.10 The Ren and Stimpy Show (T) (733840)
7.30 Computers Don't Bite: The Beginner's Guide A computerised wedding planner, and video phones. Plus: Olympic stars reveal why they are prohibited from playing computer games (T) (47)
8.00 Motormonth The Pirelli International Rally, a profile of Tim Harvey and a video diary from Mark Blundell (T) (6376)
8.30 The Antiques Show The work and training of auctioneers. Plus: Fred Perry tennis memorabilia and period doll's houses. Last in the series (T) (8111)



Dawn French is the vicar (9.00pm)

9.00 The Vicar of Dibley Repeat showing of the first series of the comedy with Dawn French as a female vicar (r) (T) (7463)
9.30 Tales from the Riverbank The elusive sea trout and the brown trout (T) (53395)
10.00 Game On Mandy's reckless former boyfriend makes an unexpected visit (r) (T) (14918)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (694111)
11.15 Ruby Late night chat (646734)
11.55 Weather (6978)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (8202241)
12.30am Learning Zone: OU: Following a Score 1.00 Empire and Nation: The Re-fashioning of Literature **1.30** Modern Art **2.00** Teaching Today **4.00** Italia 2000 **4.30** Royal Institution Discourse **5.30** RCN Nursing

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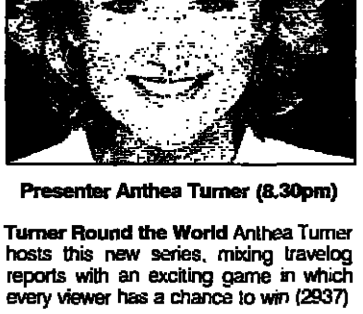
6.00am GMTV (9838227)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (T) (3986043)
9.55 Regional News (T) (4670376)
10.00 The Time, the Place (54111)
10.30 This Morning (65024956)
12.20pm Regional News (T) (1049482)
12.30 News (T) and weather (4042043)
12.55 The Pulse (T) (4027734) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (90220005)
1.50 Hello Again (1987) with Shelly Long, Judith Ivey and Gabriel Bryne. Comic tale of the repercussions that follow a spiritualist who resurrects her sister one year after her death. Directed by Frank Perry (8098005) FILM
3.20 News (T) (3295840)
3.25 Regional News (T) (3294111)
3.30 Caribou Kitchen (3012598) **3.40** Tots TV (r) (8968579) **3.50** Cartoon Time (3457444) **3.55** Where's Wally (7409043) **4.25** Wool! (r) (9858685) **4.50** The Big Bang (T) (4888531)
5.10 Sorted (T) (8927208)
5.40 News (T) and weather (506937)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (37)
6.29 HTV Weather (259043)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (89)
7.00 Wheel of Fortune Return of the game show hosted by Bradley Walsh (T) (7482)
7.30 Coronation Street Steve gives Fiona the cold shoulder (T) (73)
8.00 World in Action Britain's part in supplying equipment to military regimes worldwide (1/2) (T) (3802)



Presenter Anthea Turner (8.30pm)

8.30 Turner Round the World Anthea Turner hosts this new series, mixing travelog reports with an exciting game in which every viewer has a chance to win (2937)
9.00 Bramwell Robert takes charge when Eleanor goes to the country (T) (1531)
10.00 News (T) and weather (57424)
10.30 Regional News (T) (412901)
10.40 The West Story: Party Politics How young people regularly organise unlicenced raves (948444)
11.15 Strays (1992) with Kathleen Quinlan, Timothy Busssfield and Claudia Christian. A couple are terrorised by a group of wildcats shortly after moving into their dream house. Directed by John McPherson (888208) FILM
12.35am In a Child's Name The conclusion of the mini-series about a man who after murdering his wife fights her family for custody of his children while behind bars (543222)
2.20 Club Nation (r) (T) (6990777)
3.20 God's Gift (r) (1051512)
4.20 Sound Bites (96461067)
4.35 World in Action (r) (T) (81324048)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (53406)
5.30 News (13203)

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (4027734)
1.50 Blue Heelers (5579208)
2.50-3.20 High Road (2727111)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8927208)
6.25-7.00 Central News (270918)
10.40 Film: Cast a Deadly Spell (92836531)
12.30am Sound Bites (9979574)
12.40 War of the Worlds (7376116)
1.35 Late and Loud (2690067)
2.35 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (2995932)
3.00 Film: The Survivor (96932)
4.30 Central Jobfinder '97 (77574)
5.00 Asian Eye (53406)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (1049482)
12.55 Home and Away (4027734)
1.25 High Road (23595289)
1.55 Murder, She Wrote (5587227)
2.50-3.20 Westcountry Update (2727111)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8927208)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (45376)
10.30 Westcountry News (412181)
10.45 The View from Here (145260)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (386840)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (4027734)
1.50 At Home with Maggie Philbin (31684260)
2.20-3.20 Blue Heelers (5604956)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8927208)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (37)
6.30-7.00 Country Ways (89)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (412181)
10.45 The Pier (596734)
11.10 The Listings (401753)
11.15 Swift Justice (499753)
12.10am Meridian Focus (8889135)
5.00 Freescreen (53406)

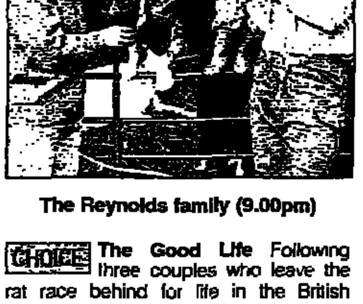
ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (4027734)
1.50 Blue Heelers (5579208)
2.50-3.20 Crawshaw Paints Constable Country (2727111)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8927208)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (270918)
10.40 Cross Question (169840)
11.40 Highlander (386840)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (77647) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (98043) **9.00 Bewitched** (11821) **9.30 Ysgolion** (455901) **12.00 Right to Reply** (31685) **12.30pm Animal Passions** (68227) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (10738579) **1.15 Smot y Ci** (45961647) **1.25 Film: Ball of Fire** (24209598) **3.30 Collectors' Lot** (95) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (42) **4.30 Garden Party** (14) **5.00 5 Pump** (8016821) **5.10 Fflell** (8012005) **5.20 Gogs** (7305314) **5.30 Countdown** (66) **6.00 Newyddion** (964463) **6.05 Heno** (351840) **6.35 Sion a Sian** (233005) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (454821) **7.25 A Byd Ar Bedwar** (924647) **8.00 Clwb Garddio** (1444) **8.30 Newyddion** (7109) **9.00 O Flaen Dy Lygaid** (9173) **10.00 Sgorio** (2260) **11.00 Planet Showbiz** (4376) **11.30 NBA Raw** (18685) **12.30am Film: King of New York** (10864)

6.00am Sesame Street The guest is Ellen DeGeneres (r) (77647) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (98043) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (11321)
9.30 Schools: Geography Junction (4538531) **9.45** Book Box (4566314) **10.00** Stage Two Science (9195753) **10.15** Schools at Work (2715376) **10.20** Off the Walls (9390901) **10.40** The English Programme (7495550) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (2599734) **11.15** The Mix (1576579) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (4768227) **11.45** Living and Growing (4756482)
12.00 Right to Reply (T) (31685) **12.30pm** Light Lunch (54753) **1.30** The Arnold Waltz. Animation (36379734)
1.35 The Malta Story (1953) with Alec Guinness and Jack Hawkins. Second World War drama directed by Brian Desmond Hurst (T) (45109376) FILM
3.30 Collectors' Lot Ugbrooke Park, Devon (T) (95) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (42) **4.30** Countdown (T) (6302937) **4.55** Montel Williams (T) (5587005) **5.30** Animal Passions (T) (66)
6.00 Home Improvement Jill's car is crushed when Tim tries to get it fixed (T) (79)
6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap (T) (31)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (955482)
7.50 Life Stories Biographies made by student film-makers (153840)
8.00 CHOICE **Dosh** Adam Faith returns with a new eight-part guide to finance (T) (1444)
8.30 CHOICE **Absolutely Animals** Animal issue magazine presented by Wendy Turner and Mark Evans. Tonight, a dog who can sniff out cancer, a kleptomaniac cat and a gorilla sanctuary situated in Cameroon's jungle (1/8) (T) (7109)

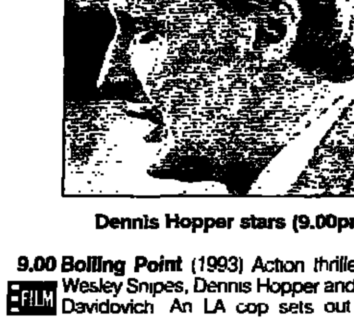


The Reynolds family (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **The Good Life** Following three couples who leave the rat race behind for life in the British countryside (T) (1/2) (9173)
10.00 Dark Skies Sci-fi (T) (2260)
11.00 Cheers Comedy (r) (T) (4376)
11.30 NBA Raw Basketball (18685)
12.30am NYPD Blue: Boxer Rebellion The squad are searching for an arsonist (r) (T) (39999)
1.30 NYPD Blue: The Bookie and the Kooky Cookie A bookmaker is murdered in an alley (r) (T) (4802661)
2.20 Persistence of Memory Offbeat drama short (r) (7495338)
2.45 Broadway Stories A series of Damon Runyon stories about 1930s New York (1/10) (r) (T) (29406)
3.15 Miss Robin Hood (1952, b/w) with Margaret Rutherford. Comedy directed by John Guillermin (7706203) FILM
4.35 Watching the Detectives Last in the series (r) (T) (6569845)
5.35-6.00 Backdate (r) (T) (7975048)

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**: sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (1058145)
7.30 Havakazoo (3778463) **8.00** Adventures of the Bush Patrol (8987463) **8.30** WideWorld. The last of the series analyses the results of studies into how children learn (8986734)
9.00 Espresso (4997050) **10.00** Exclusive (1873531) **10.30** Attractions (r) (8906598)
11.00 Leeza (1110666) **11.50** Double Espresso (11199753) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8990550) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (6262591)
1.00 5 News Update (52155869) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (9054005) **2.00** 5's Company (8601005)
3.30 I Never Sang for my Father (1970) Drama with Gene Hackman, Melvyn Douglas and Elizabeth Hubbard. Moving account of the dilemma facing a man who plans to marry a much younger woman and move to California. Directed by Gilbert Cates (9021482) FILM
5.10 5's Company (64796550)
5.30 100 Per Cent (7472685)
6.00 Whittle (T) (7479598)
6.30 Family Affairs Maria is blackmailed (T) (7453550)
7.00 Exclusive Showbiz news (T) (6526685)
7.30 Flights of Fancy: Wings Over the Rift Wildlife documentary exploring the world of gliding and bird flight (T) (7459734)
8.00 Hot Property Sandy Mitchell assists a single mother with two small children who wants to move out of her mobile home and into a house in rural Wales (T) (6502005)
8.30 5 News (T) (6514840)



Dennis Hopper stars (9.00pm)

9.00 Boiling Point (1993) Action thriller with Wesley Snipes, Dennis Hopper and Lolita Davidovich. An LA cop sets out on a revenge-fuelled mission. Directed by James B. Harris (6637111) FILM
10.30 Bring Me the Head of Light Entertainment Comedy panel game with guests Matt Welcome and Dominic Holland (8907227)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show (1386550)
11.40 We Know Where You Live Irreverent sketch show featuring Simon Pegg, Fiona Allen and Sanjeev Bhaskar (6539482)
12.10am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine, including extreme sports at **2.00** (92950086)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3766512)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (3442965)

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (415753) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (47918) **10.00** Another World (39314) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (19550) **12.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (93258) **1.00pm** Geraldo (85918) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (82918) **3.00** Jenny Jones (11622) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (97289) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9889) **6.00** Real TV (5531) **6.30** Married — with Children (9111) **7.00** The Simpsons (4258) **7.30** M*A*S*H (5395) **8.00** Star Trek: Voyager (40869) **9.00** Poltergeist: The Legacy (20005) **10.00** Nash Bridges (23192) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (30043) **12.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (81628) **12.30am** L.A.P.D. (35951) **1.00** Hit Mix Long Play (1815845)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (4248395) **7.30** Superboy (8748395) **8.00** Final Justice (6410005) **10.00** The Outer Limits (6422840) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (7764666) **12.00** Hit Mix Long Play (2903222)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Wrong Box (1966) (54444) **8.00 The Nutcracker** (1993) (80258) **10.00 Southern Star** (1969) (96960395) **11.45 Roswell** (1994) (750550) **1.15pm Follow the River** (1995) (29012735) **3.00 Truman** (1995) (68349024) **5.15 Prince for a Day** (1995) (55289837) **7.00 I Love Trouble** (1994) (36227) **9.00 Roswell** (1994) (12598) **10.30 China Moon** (1994) (50914482) **12.15am Motorcycle Gang** (1994) (1980067) **1.40 The Slingshot** (1994) (371628) **3.25 Deadly Vows** (1994) (46053749)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay! U (1948) (85314) **8.00 Second Chance** (1995) (97840) **10.00 Abraham Valley** (1994) (134376) **1.00pm Don't Talk to Strangers** (1994) (40304005) **2.40 The Dolly Sisters** (1946) (49389260) **4.35 Second Chance** (1995) (6710550) **6.00 Three Ninjas Knuckle Up** (1995) (55937) **7.30 Behind-the-Scenes: The Fifth Element** (8005) **8.00 A Walk in the Clouds** (1995) (37395) **10.00 Rob Roy** (1995) (36023227) **12.20am A Family Divided** (1994) (683425) **1.55 Fighting for My Daughter: The Anne Dion Story** (1994) (882319) **3.30 Julia and Julia** (1987) (972222) **5.10 The New Adventures of Little Toot** (1993) (3180390)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Three Blind Mice (1938) (34244260) **7.25 The Guns of Navarone** (1961) (71196227) **10.00 Death Hunt** (1981) (8748395) **11.45 The Beast** (1988) (8172132) **1.40am The Rachel Papers** (1989) (9456390) **3.15-4.55 Blue Skies** (1946) (8219628)

TNT

9.00pm Adam's Rib (1949) (39682192) **11.00 Travels with My Aunt** (1972) (26584753) **1.00am A Stranger Is Watching** (1982) (90367338) **2.45-5.00 Adam's Rib** (1949) (19201609)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am European PGA Golf: Deutsche Bank Open (16734) **8.30** Racing News (58531) **9.00** World Sport Special (70111) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (83173) **10.00** Watersports World (44260) **11.00** Live Cricket: The Ashes Tour (6460918) **7.00pm** Sports Centre (1482) **7.30** Football Special (66550) **8.30** Live Ringside Boxing (71395) **10.30** Sports Centre (77024) **11.00** Football Special (52289) **12.00** Grand Prix Sailing (98574) **12.30am** Ringside Boxing (23893) **2.30-3.00** Sports Centre (45593)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Golf: LPGA (77792598) **1.00pm** Golf: The Memorial (75448695) **4.00** Rugby League: Halifax v St Helens (63556840) **6.00** The Winning Post: Thirsk and Windsor — Live (68944802) **8.30** Golf: LPGA Corning Classic (92631647) **9.30** Grand Prix Sailing (77793227) **10.00** Motorcycling: Isle of Man TT (39604314) **11.00-11.30** World Sport Special (86947753)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Athletics: Hengelo Grand Prix Meeting (7528024) **8.15** Motorcycling: Austrian Grand Prix (39815444) **10.00** Tennis: French Open — Live (3324753) **7.00am** Football: Toulon Under-21 Cup — Live (41173) **9.00** Athletics: Donovan Bailey v Michael Johnson (59043) **9.30** Athletics: St Denis Grand Prix Meeting (92821) **10.00** Tennis: French Open Rendez-Vous (56444) **11.00-12.30am** Snooker: John Parrott v Ronnie O'Sullivan (85685)

UK GOLD

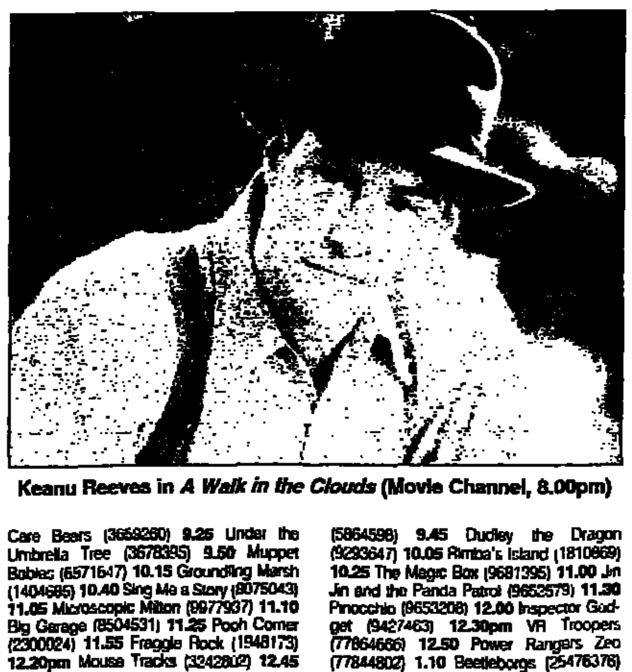
7.00am Record Breakers (4242753) **7.35** Neighbours (3572442) **8.00** Crossroads (7326314) **8.25** EastEnders (2636550) **9.00** The Bill (5378043) **9.30** You're Only Young Twice (5841192) **10.00** Duty Free (2439208) **10.30** The Sullivans (5374227) **11.00** Casualty (83786685) **12.05pm** Crossroads (88272395) **12.30** Neighbours (5852208) **1.00** EastEnders (3993866) **1.35** Dick Emery (68218192) **2.05** A Diddy Bit of Dodd (94339032) **2.15** Fairly Secret Army (2971258) **2.50** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (6410289) **3.30** The Bill (2413173) **4.00** Boon (7803173) **5.00** Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game (81175753) **6.05** EastEnders (7000014) **6.40** Sykes (8728161) **7.20** Dr Who Robot (3532802) **7.50** Only When I Laugh (9901598) **8.30** Wowlabgroovy (9795463) **9.00** The Bill (7832685) **9.30** Casualty (44973024) **10.35** Minder (3512799) **11.35** Spitting Image (5750918) **12.05am** Colditz (1102319) **1.00 FILM: The Night We Dropped a Clanger** (2122845) **2.30** Shopping (3082628)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (7900289) **7.00** Coronation St (4341043) **7.30** Families (4320550) **8.00** Surprise, Surprise (3255260) **9.00** The Professionals (6183314) **10.00** The Gentle Touch (4326734) **11.00** London's Burning (4346598) **12.00** Coronation St (8542208) **12.30pm** Families (6638395) **1.00** Second Thoughts (4340314) **1.30** The Good Life Guide (6635668) **2.00** A Family at War (8176463) **3.00** The Gentle Touch (7980192) **4.00** The Professionals (7909227) **5.00** London's Burning (2868192) **6.00** Families (8890043) **6.30** Coronation St (8881395) **7.00** The Gentle Touch (2222531) **8.00** The Professionals (2248579) **9.00** Coronation St (7998111) **9.30** The Comedians (8618531) **10.00-11.00** London's Burning (2221802)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Mouse Tracks (9255666) **6.25** Quack Attack (9234173) **6.50** Bonkers (4268869) **7.15** Little Mermaid (6571482) **7.40** Aladdin (9374840) **8.05** Quack Pack (3823227) **8.30** Goof Troop (76591) **9.00** Care Bears (3659260) **9.25** Under the Umbrella Tree (3678395) **9.50** Muppet Babies (6571647) **10.15** Groundling Marsh (1404685) **10.40** Sing Me a Story (8075043) **11.05** Microscopic Milton (9977937) **11.10** Big Garage (8504531) **11.25** Pooh Corner (2300024) **11.55** Fraggle Rock (1948173) **12.20pm** Mouse Tracks (3242802) **12.45** Timon and Pumbaa (98844647) **1.00** Boy Meets World (82252956) **1.25** Bonkers (86789111) **1.50** Quack Pack (52536260) **2.15** Aladdin (89858531) **2.40** Care Bears (9762376) **3.00** Little Mermaid (4848519) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (3243096) **3.40** Goof Troop (2189531) **4.30** Everyday's a Chooseday (5192) **5.00** Aladdin (7649376) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (9572006) **5.35** Mighty Ducks (224821) **6.00** New Doug (6885) **6.30** Boy Meets World (7937) **7.00** Brotherly Love (1024) **7.30 FILM: The Goodbye Bird** (63314) **9.00** Bone Chillers (71289) **9.30-10.00** Life's Work (56043)



Keanu Reeves in *A Walk in the Clouds* (Movie Channel, 8.00pm)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (2082956) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (5470395) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (7755918) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (7767753) **8.00** Beetleborgs (9424376) **8.30** Crocadoo (9423647) **9.00** Rimba's Island (5482866) **9.20** The Magic Box (5864598) **9.45** Dudley the Dragon (9293647) **10.05** Rimba's Island (1810869) **10.25** The Magic Box (9691395) **11.00** Jin Jin and the Panda Patrol (9652579) **11.30** Pinocchio (9653208) **12.00** Inspector Gadget (9427463) **12.30pm** VR Troopers (77864666) **12.50** Power Rangers Zeo (77844802) **1.10** Beetleborgs (25476376) **1.30** Eek (8151032) **2.00** Life with Louie (4245579) **2.30** Crocadoo (8725802) **3.00** Gadget Boy (4257314) **3.30** Eek (8737647) **4.00** Life with Louie (8749482) **4.30** Power Rangers Zeo (8745666) **5.00** Beetleborgs (4229531) **5.30** Spiderman (8736918) **6.00** X Men (8726531) **6.30-7.00** Goosebumps (8740111)

TCC

6.00am Road to Avonlea (45181) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (53734) **8.00** Batman (19024) **8.30** Art Attack (18395) **9.00** Flash Gordon (76537) **9.30** Bobby's World (45937) **10.00** Romuald the Reindeer (24531) **10.30** Robinson Sucroe (98531) **11.00** Danger Mouse (97227) **11.30** Gravedale High (98956) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (12111) **12.30pm** Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (49753) **1.00** Molly (70208) **1.30** The New Adventures of Black Beauty (48024) **2.00** The Girl from Tomorrow (3482) **2.30** Ocean Odyssey (8802) **3.00** Flash Gordon (9289) **3.30** Batman (7537) **4.00** The Big Dish (2482) **4.30-5.00** Art Attack (8666)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**. Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula (77294) **6.30** Rocko's Modern Life (36753) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (67111) **7.30** Rugrats (53918) **8.00** Doug (55802) **8.30** Arthur (54173) **9.00** Children's BBC (78753) **9.30** Children's BBC (14043) **10.00** Wimzie's House (27005) **10.30** Babar (74937) **11.00** Magic School Bus (42753) **11.30** Mr Men/Victor and Maria/Barney/Lizzie's Library/Bod/Jimbo and Th (43482) **12.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (65289) **12.30pm** The Busy World of Richard Scarry (85531) **1.00** Children's BBC (66482) **1.30** Children's BBC (84802) **2.00** The Wubbulous World of Dr Seuss (5208) **2.30** Arthur (7734) **3.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (7043) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (9579) **4.00** Hey Arnold! (1314) **4.30** Rugrats (7598) **5.00** Sister Sister (9260) **5.30** Kenan and Kel (1550) **6.00** Alex Mack (8463) **6.30-7.00** Doug (2043)

TROUBLE

12.00 Heartbreak High (5859111) **1.00pm** Madison (3602111) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (5846647) **2.00** Hangtime (9781260) **2.30** California Dreams (2436024) **3.00** Byker Grove (9700395) **3.30** Blast (2448869) **4.00** Sweet Valley High (2427376) **4.30** Hangtime (2416260) **5.00** Saved by the Bell (9705840) **5.30** California Dreams (2430840) **6.00** Byker Grove (2437753) **6.30** Madison (2428005) **7.00-8.00** Heartbreak High (6816869)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (9701024) **8.30** The New Twilight Zone (9780631) **9.00** The Burning Zone (6805753) **10.00** Tour of Duty (6808840) **11.00 FILM: Ghost in the Shell** (5003276) **1.00am** The Burning Zone (8104086) **2.00** Tour of Duty (4184796) **3.00 FILM: Ghost in the Shell** (2137777) **5.00** Starsky and Hutch (1482574)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (9024) **7.30** Roseanne (8227) **8.00** Entertainment UK (5444) **8.30** Almost Perfect (4579) **9.00** Cheers (39289) **9.30** Cybill (58145) **10.00** Frasier (66918) **10.30** Monty Python's Flying Circus (75666) **11.00** In Bed with Me Dinner (786821) **11.25** Robin (662802) **11.30** Nightstand (64869) **12.30am** Sledgehammer (88067) **1.00** Cheers (44883) **1.30** Cybill (50932) **2.00** Entertainment UK (64628) **2.30** In Bed with Me Dinner (43135) **3.00** Frasier (31319) **3.30-4.00** Almost Perfect (67715)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (8535463) **9.00** Sightings (8555227) **10.00** SFScene (7626127) **10.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (8005463) **11.30** Masters of Fantasy (5198208) **11.55** Earthscan (9140640) **12.00** Nightmare Cafe (7952067) **1.00am** The Twilight Zone (3719357) **1.30** One Step Beyond (2502932) **2.00** Friday the 13th (8810628) **3.00-4.00** Dark Shadows (2926796)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Joy of Painting (5376685) **9.30** Gardeners' Diary (5849734) **10.00** Hooked on Fishing (2420560) **10.30** Room Service (5372869) **11.00** Painted House (7810463) **11.30** This Old House (7811192) **12.00** Just for Starters (5356821) **12.30pm** Sweet Things (5843550) **1.00** Graham Kerr (3615685) **1.30** Home Again (5842821) **2.00** Hometime (9794734) **2.30** Furniture on the Mend (2449598) **3.00** Our House (9713869) **3.30** This Old House (2444043)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Extremists (2423550) **4.30** Top Marques II (2429734) **5.00** Time Travellers (9718314) **5.30** Justice Files (2443314) **6.00** Wild at Heart (2440227) **6.30** Wild Things (2431579) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (9798550) **7.30** Disaster (2420463) **8.00** History's Turning Points (9714598) **8.30** Crocodile Hunters (9793005) **9.00** Lonely Planet (6818227) **10.00** Great Egyptians (6811314) **11.00** Wings (3692734) **12.00** First Flights (2679280) **12.30am** Wars in Peace (7665357) **1.00** Disaster (2617154) **1.30-2.00** Beyond 2000 (3803898)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Weapons at War (7525685) **5.00** Hollywood (1788579) **6.00** Our Century 1939-1945 (3091753) **7.00-8.00** Biography: George III (8559043)

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.05pm Cross Wits (3460956) **5.50** Family Fortunes (232840) **6.30** Catchphrase (122550) **7.05** Winner Takes All (299956) **7.40** Give Us A Clue (783901) **8.20** All Clued Up (142869) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (483314) **9.35** Sale of the Century (378043) **10.10** Treasure Hunt (835111) **11.20** Studs (335111) **12.00** Winner Takes All (32390) **12.30am** Family Late: Hart to Hart (59322) **1.30** Moonlighting (19932) **2.30** The Byrds of Paradise (72574) **3.30** Teen Win, Lose or Draw (83777) **4.00** The Fall Guy (69425) **5.00** HSN Direct Shopping (62951)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (25436821) **9.05** Gladrags and Glamour (1277111) **9.15** The Gordon Elliott Show (7158442) **10.05** Jerry Springer Uncut (4535314) **10.55** UK Living's Shopping Emporium (41597463) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (9503734) **11.50** Brookside (5050598) **12.25pm** Why Me? Real Life Case Studies (35130463) **12.55** Tempest (7061647) **1.40** Rolonda (2447821) **2.30** The Agony Experience (5433463) **3.00** Live at Three (67924376) **4.05** The Jerry Springer Show (9075314) **5.05** Lingo (52046192) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (5444579) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (9999444) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (4942579) **7.05** Hearts Afire (4876753) **7.35** Brookside (2802869) **8.05** Rolonda (4614840) **9.00 FILM: Passions** (79556735) **10.55** UK Living's Shopping Emporium (5079531) **11.00-12.00** The Erogenous Zone (5802840)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Zee Presents **8.00** Raahat **8.25** Ek Nazar **8.30** Out and About **9.00 FILM: Char Diwari 11.30** Kurukshetra **12.00** Parampara **12.30** Daily Serial Raahat **1.00pm** Gujarati **FILM: Alakh Niranjan 4.00** ZEE Zone Presents **4.05** Ikke Pe Ikka **4.35** Hum Panch **5.00** Zone Time **5.25** Teer Kamaan **6.00** Usha Uthup Show **6.25** Ek Nazar **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Video Countdown **8.00** News and Euronews **8.35** Sailaab **9.05** Hindi **FILM: Giddh 11.30-12.00** Shoe Chale Chhe

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds. Includes Ten of the Best and The Vinyl Years

ROGER BOOTLE 45

Why Brown should raise taxes in the Budget

BUSINESS

EMERGENCY 46

Counting the costs of computer failure

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft
MONDAY JUNE 2 1997

Gencor plans London mining float as part of £5bn demerger

By Adam Jones

GENCOR, the South African mining giant, is considering a £5 billion-plus demerger involving the flotation of a new mining company on the London Stock Exchange.

Gencor, which has a market value of about £4.6 billion, is thought to be looking to raise between £600 million and £1.2 billion of new capital in the float. It is expected to retain the precious metals businesses within its Johannesburg listing, with the base metals side transferring to a London vehicle large enough to be included in the FT-SE 100 index.

The flotation, whose financial advisers include Robert Fleming, the London securities house, may start this month.

Gencor admitted yesterday that it was investigating a number of transactions to improve its access to international capital markets to fund major projects in South Africa, Mozambique, Latin America and Australia. South African companies are still constrained by currency controls. The company said: "The initiative has a number of hurdles that still have to be overcome, and has not yet been approved by the Gencor board. Shareholders are therefore advised to exercise caution in their dealings of the company's shares."

The South African mining industry has been subject to a flurry of activity recently, with the proposed merger of JCI and Lonrho and empowerment initiatives transferring ownership from whites to blacks.

Gencor was formed by the merger of General Mining and the Union Corporation. In 1993, Gencor, then a broad conglomerate, unbundled the bulk of its industrial activities to concentrate on mining and mineral activities. It bought Billiton, the minerals company, from Royal Dutch Shell for more than $1 billion in 1994. The heavily-geared purchase met with scepticism but Billiton's better-than-expected performance, helped by rising aluminium prices, enabled the early restructuring of debt.

A new UK-listed company would probably be built around Billiton, and is likely to have a listing in Johannesburg. It should include Gencor's stake in the Richards Bay iron and titanium operation, and nickel-mining and coal activities. Alusef, an aluminium company that last year became a wholly-owned subsidiary, is another likely component.

Gencor made a profit before exceptionals of just over 1 billion rand (£139 million) in the six months to December 31. Brian Gilbertson, executive chairman of Gencor, has clearly signalled his intention to move away from domestic gold production to create a more internationalist group. Last year, a merger between the platinum interests of Gencor and Lonrho, in which it retains a 27 per cent stake, was over-ruled by the European Commission for duopoly reasons.

Brussels seeks wider powers over jobs

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BRUSSELS is proposing far-reaching extensions of Europe's powers over jobs in new plans for employment tabled for this month's special EU summit.

Confidential proposals expected to be agreed at the summit in Amsterdam, which have been seen by *The Times*, give wide-ranging powers to Brussels to enforce employment decisions in each EU member state — including Britain.

The draft version of the "employment chapter" of the treaty on the future of the European Union, which is likely to be signed at Amsterdam, proposes a detailed mechanism under which member states will have to put into practice new proposals on employment from the European Commission, and will have to account annually for their implementation.

The unpublished employment chapter proposes a significant extension of European qualified majority voting (QMV) under which no individual EU member can veto a proposal. New measures brought forward under the employment chapter would be approved under QMV.

While the employment chapter itself puts forward no specific new initiatives on jobs, Eurosceptics and some business leaders will see close parallels between the mechanisms it is proposing and the original social chapter of the 1992 Maastricht treaty, which the Amsterdam treaty will amend.

The UK Government is ready to agree to the proposed employment chapter at the EU summit on June 16 and 17. With only Germany opposed, ministers and officials believe that Amsterdam is likely to see the chapter agreed. Once ratified by the UK Parliament, the new treaty — including its employment chapter — would become law in Britain.

The jobs chapter commits EU member states to work towards a "co-ordinated strategy for employment", and says that member states "shall regard promoting employment as a matter of common concern". The draft document makes clear that the issue of jobs will now be applied to all EU matters: "The objective of a high level of employment shall be taken into consideration in the formulation and implementation of Community policies."

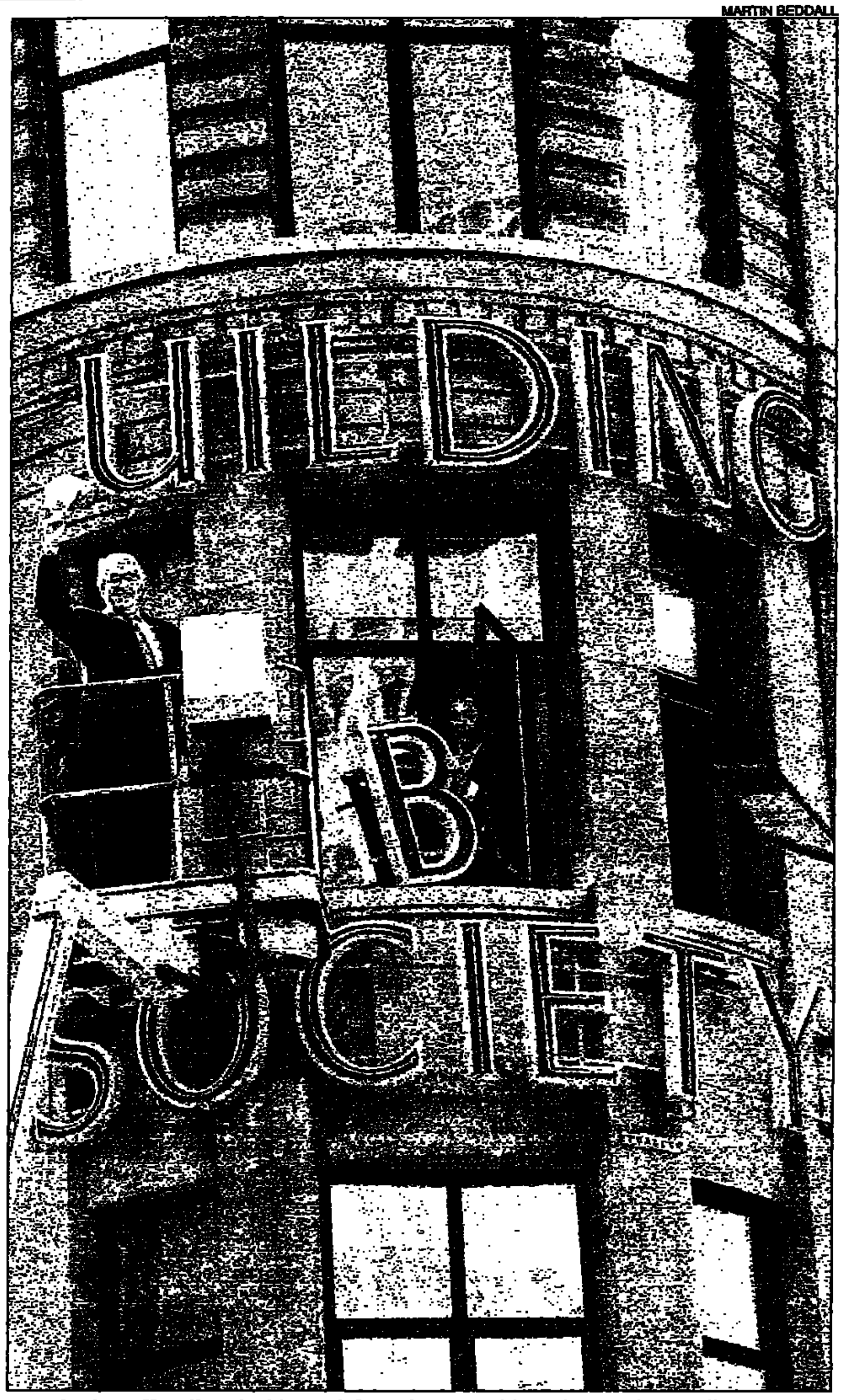
While this element alone of the proposed treaty gives Brussels very broad powers to apply the question of jobs to all economic and other EU policies, the draft treaty chapter on employment goes further by proposing a detailed mechanism to deliver new legal initiatives on jobs.

It says that in operating the new employment chapter the EU's social affairs council, which meets later this month, would be able to draw up proposals on employment on a QMV basis, which EU member countries "shall take into account" in framing their own policies on jobs. Each EU member state would then be required to report annually to the social affairs council the steps it had taken to implement these policies.

The council, in turn, would then examine each country's report, and would have the power — again on the basis of QMV decisions — to "recommend" action to member states, which legally they would have to implement.

Finally, the social affairs council would have new powers under the employment chapter to "adopt incentive measures" on jobs, which member states would have to implement.

While the draft chapter makes it clear that this would not involve any harmonisation of laws in individual member states, opponents of the proposed chapter believe that the measure would give Brussels extensive powers to spend money on new job programmes. Germany's opposition to the employment chapter is understood to rest on this issue.



MARTIN BEDDALL

Signing off: Mike Blackburn, left, and Jon Foulds at the London Wall branch

Retailers stand by to reap benefit of Halifax float

By Marianne Curphey and Anne Ashworth

NEARLY eight million people will share in a £17 billion financial bonanza today when the Halifax Building Society floats on the stock market and becomes a bank.

The conversion of the UK's market leader in mortgages will enrich members by an average £2,300, although some could net more than £8,000.

Those who sell today using the Halifax's free share-dealing system will be able to withdraw their cash on Friday. The payout estimates have sparked hopes among retailers of a summer spending boom.

Heavy demand is expected for the shares in the first hours of trading. Conservative estimates put the opening share price at 700p, which would give an average bonus of £2,300 and a maximum payout of £8,267.

The value of stock market listed banks fell heavily on Friday amid profit-taking and reports that stocks were being sold short to deflate the sector's high rating in advance of the debut by the Halifax, where Jon Foulds is chairman and Mike Blackburn is chief executive.

Barclays Stockbrokers believes that many shareholders may decide to retain their shares in the new bank, as it is expected that the Halifax could use its cash pile to pay a special dividend. This could strengthen the price.

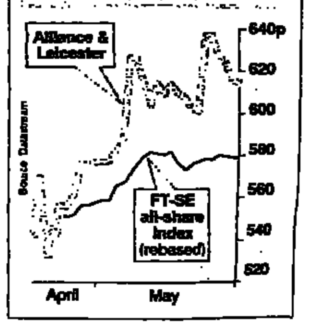
Holiday companies, furniture retailers, do-it-yourself stores and carpet warehouses reported increased demand for their products after the demutualisation of the Alliance & Leicester in April, when members received an average £1,500.

A&L shares, which closed on Friday at 612p, down 2½p, have substanitally outperformed the FT-SE all-share index since then.

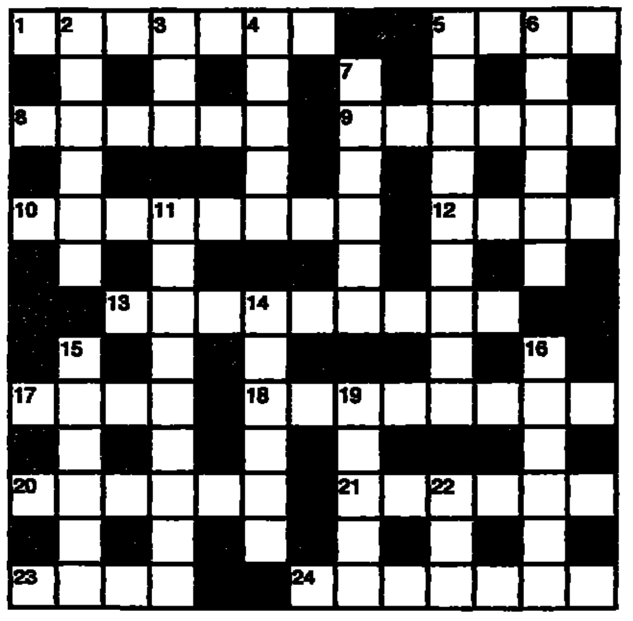
Thomson, the biggest holiday company in the UK with a third of the market, said demand for up-market holidays, once-in-a-lifetime trips and long-haul packages had shown a huge increase in anticipation of a summer of building society conversions.

Thomson was so confident that the series of conversions this year would increase demand that it launched summer 1998 brochures six months earlier than normal.

A further two societies, the Woolwich and the Northern Rock will follow the Halifax to the stock market.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1109

ACROSS

1 Satisfy conditions; add reservation to (7)
5 Treaty (4)
8 Metrical foot, as *suddenly* (6)
9 Stale, sour (6)
10 Modish expression (8)
12 Warmth; eliminator (4)
13 Authenticating name (9)
17 Part of bird; side of stage (4)
18 Show proud confidence (4.4)
20 Norseman (6)
21 Most pitiable (6)
23 Bit of fun, banter (4)
24 Shameless woman: Ahab's wife (7)

DOWN

2 Miranda its moon (6)
3 Destiny: a Fr. dept. (3)
4 Folded sheet; page number (5)
5 Emmeline —, suffragette (9)
6 Peak of intensity (6)
7 Reputation; course module (6)
11 Spirit of the age (9)
14 "Post-Christian" religion (3.3)
15 Literary comparison (6)
16 Fish; sounds like *position* (6)
19 Nearly two pints (5)
22 Winning serve (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1108

ACROSS: 1 Madman 4 Emerge 9 Austere 10 Rover 11 Souse 13 Dissent 14 Dab 15 Bilge 16 Gym 17 Buttons 19 Trail 21 Chord 22 Higgins 24 Exhort 25 Butler

DOWN: 1 Means 2 Disturb 3 Awe 5 Mare's nest 6 Revue 7 Erratum 8 Mendelssohn 12 Embroider 14 Debacle 16 Glacial 18 Tooth 20 Laser 23 Gnu

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Nadir seeks 'no arrest' pledge

By Oliver August

ASIL NADIR, the tycoon wanted by the Serious Fraud Office, yesterday ruled out returning to the UK.

But Mr Nadir, who fled Britain while awaiting trial four years ago, insisted he was not a fugitive. Of the British authorities, he said: "I do not trust them sufficiently to have to go to Britain."

The tycoon is facing charges of theft and false accounting charges following the collapse of his £2.2 billion Polly Peck International empire. He fled to northern Cyprus, but recently transferred his remaining business operations to Turkey.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme last week Mr Nadir said that he hoped the Government would be "sufficiently brave to clear this matter".

Mr Nadir yesterday told Radio 5 Live: "I hope that the new Government would find this fight of mine acceptable because if they can clear this nonsense up, then the country will be a place to live in."

He said that he would return to the UK if he had a guarantee that he would not be arrested and that the Polly Peck collapse would be examined by a public inquiry.

Nadir: lack of trust

Another site sought for movie park

WARNER Bros, the film studio, and United News & Media, the newspaper and ITV company, are searching for a new location for their £225 million theme park after deciding that obtaining planning permission at a site in northwest London would be too costly (Eric Reguly writes).

The theme park, to be called Movie World, was to have been built on a largely vacant, 150-acre site in the borough of Hillingdon, north of Heathrow airport. It was to open in the summer of 1999, creating about 1,000 permanent jobs, with attractions ranging from adventure rides and the "Dirty Harry Bar" to scenes and sets from famous British films. The site was to include a working film studio.

The hunt for a new site will put the project back by a year or more. United, owner of the *Express* newspaper titles, is considering other sites, including ones between London and Birmingham. Abandoned airfields are possibilities.

Former director wins £2m pension jackpot

Defeat for Littlewoods trust

By Sarah Cunningham

THE pension trust of Littlewoods, the privately owned football pools to retailing business, has been forced to pay a former director up to £2 million in back pension payments and costs after losing a two-year court battle.

Littlewoods pension trust was ordered to make the payment to Prandip Guha, who was dismissed in October 1994 for alleged gross misconduct, after the case was taken to judicial review. Mr Guha's claim for alleged wrongful dismissal is continuing through the courts.

Mr Guha, who was international director and deputy chief executive of Littlewoods, claimed more than £1.2 million from the pension trust. The court also awarded him interest and costs.

His dismissal helped to bring to light a power struggle within the company between family members and management. The struggle escalated as the success of the National Lottery hit the Littlewoods pools business.

The company is now in the process of buying the Freemans catalogue business from Sears and it is hoping to sell its 135-strong chain of high street shops.

Mr Guha, who now operates as a consultant in international manufacturing and trading, said he was relieved, but saddened that so much money and time had been spent on trying not to pay him.

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